FBIS DAILY REPORT

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ARMY DENIES INVOLVEMENT IN ALFONSIN PLOT

PY192107 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0940 GMT 19 Oct 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 19 Oct (TELAM) -- Last night, the Army headquearters issued a communique signed by Lieutenant Colonel Robert Andres Bembihy. Bembihy is a member of the Army General Secretariat. The communique reads as follows: "In the face of versions that have circulated on an alleged attack, the office of the Army commander hereby clarifies the following:

"1) That the absurd and ill-intentioned charges that have been leveled reveal that there is the intention of using a clumsy maneuver to involve Army personnel.

"2) That a comprehensive investigation will be conducted to clearly establish the origin of the above versions.

"3) That this maneuver is aimed at obtaining political advantage by maliciously charging that the Argentine Army has undertaken actions that are completely against its traditions and principles, and by seeking to involve it in an electoral process in which it has no participation whatsoever."

Although the communique makes no specific reference, it obviously refers to press reports published yesterday on an alleged attack against UCR [Radical Civic Union] presidential condidate Raul Alfonsin. The reports suggested that Army personnel may have been involved in the attack.

Foreign Ministry Supports Plot Rumors

PY200220 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2225 GMT 19 Oct 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 19 Oct (NA) -- Sources at San Martin Palace today confirmed that Foreign Minister Juan Aguirre Lanari discussed the rumors of alleged threats against Raul Alfonsin diruing a meeting held with Canadian Ambassador to Argentina Lorne F. Clarke. The meeting was held on Monday afternoon. The sources also reported that General Hector Lopez Dominguez, a military auditor, came to the Foreign Ministry twice yesterday, presumably to talk about the same matter with the foreign minister. The sources even confirmed that the high ranking officer wore his uniform only once and that on the other occasion he wore civilian clothes.

On the other hand, sources of the Radical Civic Union [UCR] reported that Foreign Minister Lanari talked about the above rumors with leader German Lopez, one of Alfonsin's closest advisers, during a closed door meeting they held outside the San Martin Palace last night. Before his meeting with the foreign minister, German Lopez reportedly met with Navy Commander in Chief Admiral Ruben Oscar Franco to discuss the rumors on the attack.

UCR sources confirmed today that both Alfonsin and his closest advisors "are forced to deny the rumors" because otherwise they would be "admitting the interference of a foreign country in Argentina's internal affairs." The sources were referring to the participation of the Canadian ambassador in the episode, because it has been learned that it was the diplomat who warned Alfonsin about the attack.

Meanwhile, the Canadian Embassy neither denied nor confirmed the intervention of Ambassador Lorne F. Clarke in the episode, despite the consultations that were made. For its part, Army headquarters last night released a communique labeling the rumors "a clumsy maneuver aimed at involving Army personnel."

'Tight Security' Protects Alfonsin

PY200250 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 0015 GMT 20 Oct 83

[Excerpts] Parana, 19 Oct (DYN) -- Radical Civic Union [UCR] presidential hopeful Raul Alfonsin today denied once again having any information concerning threats to his life. He did so during a statement made here today shortly after his arrival marked by a mass popular welcome and a tight security operation manned by police and military personnel.

When Alfonsin was getting ready to leave the Aeroparque Metropolitan airport this morning, Air Force personnel stood guard around his plane, and at the Parana Airport, Army officers and noncoms had taken strategic positions armed with automatic rifles with telescopic sights.

However, the UCR presidential hopeful said that "only an insane person could think up something like this," obviously referring to the reports that his life might be threatened. The UCR leader categorically denied having any information on this matter and also denied having met with the Canadian ambassador or any member of the Armed Forces in order to discuss the issue.

Noncommissioned officers of the Army periodically accompanied on foot Alfonsin' motorcade which was headed by a police car, an Army jeep with armed personnel inside, and hundreds of private citizens on motorcycles.

ALFONSIN ADDRESS DRAWS 35,000 IN SAN JUSTO

PY192051 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 19 Oct 83 p 11

[Text] Over 35,000 drum-beating and flag-waving people gathered last night at the main square of San Justo, in the Province of Buenos Aires, to listen to Radical presidential candidate Raul Alfonsin, who began his address introducing himself as "the future president of Argentina."

The candidate told his enthusiastic supporters that "the new march of Argentines" has already started, and that it will bring about "100 years of peace and prosperity, will put an end to this Argentina of neediness and corruption, and will mark the beginning of an Argentina of honest work."

At a news conference earlier in the evening, Alfonsin announced his party's housing plan and promised to "start building 50,000 houses directly and 30,000 through the allocation of loans" during his first year in office. He said housing would be treated as "an essential item," adding that during his administration he would like to build 900,000 houses directly and another 350,000 through loans.

Meanwhile, reliable sources reported that Juan Carlos Pugliese, head of the Radicals in the Province of Buenos Aires, said he advocates supporting the Peronist presidential ticket in the electoral college even if his party "loses by only one vote."

Pugliese reportedly recommended this course of action to Alfonsin, pointing out that if their party comes to power as the result of "negotiations" at the electoral college, "Peronism will rightly feel robbed, and it will not be possible to rule even for six months."

TV DEBATE CANCELLED; PERONISTS REVIEW INCIDENTS

PY192046 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 19 Oct 83 p 11

[Text] Both Peronist presidential candidate Italo Luder and his Radical rival Raul Alfonsin yesterday confirmed through spokesmen that the TV debate between them, which had been slated for October 25, will not be taking place while other Peronist leaders spent yesterday licking their wounds after Monday's unruly Day of Loyalty rally in Velez Sarsfield.

Justicialist Party vice-president Lorenzo Miguel who had to abandon attempts to address the rally after repeated boos and hisses, attributed the disturbances to "tiny groups" of Marxists who were once again trying to infiltrate Peronism. Some Peronist leaders allegedly attributed the trouble to the fact that Miguel is a supporter of Nueva Chicago, a football rival of Velez Sarsfield team, while Ambito Financiero newspaper accused Peronist gubernatorial hopeful Herminio Iglesias of staging the incident in a bid to discredit Miguel.

Iglesias rejected this interpretation saying: "All my friends are also friends of Lorenzo's so how could it have been them who whistled and hissed?" He went on to say: "The most important thing was that there were 400,000 at the rally, although some say there were fewer." Iglesias also refused to attach significance to the insults traded between himself and Alfonsin, describing them as "part of the campaign" and adding he was prepared to "eat gnocchi" with Alfonsin afterwards. The gubernatorial candidate stated that he was being briefed on housing, education and public health by the provincial government and that he was also in contact with business sectors.

CGT-RA Secretary-General Raul Ubaldini also played down the rally incidents, describing the October 17 celebrations as "marvellous because they represented the meeting of Peronism with its public". Senatorial candidate Juan Jose Taccone blamed the leftwing Intransigence and Mobilization internal line for the disruption. Luder's running mate Deolindo Bittel yesterday declared his solidarity with Miguel, saying: "After spending five years in prison, he didn't deserve this".

The Justicialist Metropolitan Council yesterday charged that during the rally their office in Ayacucho 915 was broken into and pro Alfonsin graffiti scrawled on the walls.

Finally, Peronist economist Eduardo Setti yesterday claimed that there would be no major devaluation under a Justicialist government, "that military spending will be drastically reduced and the Armed Forces will have to accept this" and that the foreign debt would have to be investigated.

NAVY CHIEF OF OPERATIONS RELIEVED OF POST

PY192155 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 2140 GMT 18 Oct 83

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 18 Oct (DYN) -- Navy sources report this afternoon that Rear Admiral Mario Pablo Palet, chief of operations of the Navy General Staff, has been relieved of his post. Palet, who was considered a possible candidate for the post of Navy commander in chief during the next constitutional government, requested retirement.

The decision, made by Navy Commander in Chief Admiral Ruben Oscar Franco, was reportedly prompted by the contacts that Palet has maintained with politicians. Franco himself notified Palet of the decision.

According to the sources, Palet, who was director of the Navy School in 1982, may have held talks with Justicialist Party sectors and even with presidential condidate Italo Luder himself; such talks were reportedly held within the framework of secret consultations that parties have held with a view toward the decisions that the next constitutional government will have to make concerning the Armed Forces.

Navy sources report that the Navy commander relieved Palet and asked him to retire on the grounds that he had not briefed his commander on the alleged talks. Retired Navy officers have been surprised at the decision, which was made only 12 days before the elections.

Luder Denies Palet Contacts

PY200225 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1245 GMT 19 Oct 83

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 19 Oct (NA) -- Today, Italo Luder said that Rear Admiral Mario Pablo Palet, chief of operations of the Navy General Staff, "is unjustly going to pay with his retirement for something which did not happen," thus denying a report that the naval chief was relieved because he had contacted Peronist sectors including the Justicialist Party presidential candidate himself.

According to reliable sources, Palet was relieved for having made "unauthorized" contacts with Peronist leaders, and was summoned last Monday night by Navy Commander Admiral Ruben Franco who conveyed to him that his request for retirement would be approved for these reasons.

This morning, Luder said that "I would not even know Rear Admiral Palet if I saw him; therefore if this is the reason for his relief, he is unjustly paying with his retirement for something which did not happen, because I never met him and I do not know him." Luder said to Radio Rivadavia that "I have not met with him and I do not even know him socially."

In the last few weeks, there were persistent rumors that Rear Admiral Palet was one of the high ranking officers with genuine possibilities to be appointed head of the Navy, that is, Navy chief of staff, if Peronism wins the elections.

JUSTICIALISTS SEE SUPPORT FROM OTHER PARTIES

PY151615 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1015 GMT 15 Oct 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 14 Oct (TELAM) -- In a press communique, The Justicialist Party's [PJ] National Council has expressed its views on the electoral support by the Communist, Popular Socialist, and Labor and Workers Parties as well as by the Popular Leftist Front and other groups. The PJ National Council made it clear that this support did not mean that the PJ would lose its identity or relinquish its principles and plans.

The communique, which was signed by political secretary Carlos Spadone and press secretary Rodolfo Ponce, stated that although the PJ accepted the parties' independent decision, because the PJ defends democracy, this acceptance did not mean that the PJ would not seek national unity or that it would modify its position regarding the people's self-determination if it came to power. [passage indistinct]

Luder Outlines Foreign Policy

PY171617 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1012 GMT 15 Oct 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 15 Oct (DYN) -- Justicialist presidential candidate Italo Luder has stated that the guiding principles of his government's foreign policy will be those of the "third position," the preservation of the country's decisionmaking ability, and the rejection of the policy of ideological frontiers. At a meeting yesterday with representatives of the diplomatic corps in Buenos Aires, Luder read a speech to state that "the foreign policy of the next constitutional government will seek to improve and to further a multi-polar international system."

Regarding the Argentine-Chilean conflict over the Beagle Channel, Luder said: "We will seek a solution within the framework of the Vatican mediation which gives us the best possibilities for defending our national interests, compared to the other peaceful options available to our country."

Commenting on the Malvinas Islands, he said that the issue "is not just a bilateral dispute over a specific piece of land," but entails a confrontation between two different positions. He said that the first position "is anachronistic and cannot conceal its unreasonable, 19th century policy of exploiting both men and resources behind a boastful, hollow show." The other position, he said, "is in keeping with the times, seeks equality and respect among nations, and opposes territorial usurpation to the detriment of the weakest countries for the sake of hegemonistic goals. He advocated that "all peoples should rid themselves of every remnant of colonialism."

Luder finally said that if he wins the election, his government will promote "the third position principle which, as a doctrine, will result in a foreign policy that will reject any attempt at dividing the world into areas of influence under the political, economic or cultural hegemony of any country or group of countries."

Further Luder Comments

PY172022 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 15 Oct 83 p 1

[Text] Justicialist presidential candidate Italo Luder yesterday hinted that his government, if elected, might go to war again with Great Britain over the Malvinas Islands. He said it would "disregard no ulterior consequences in the event of limit situations" in the conflict with the United Kingdom.

In a press conference for foreign correspondents, Luder also said there was "no room" for "a cessation of hostilities" at the time, particularly as he claimed that Britain had "militarized the area."

Luder also called for a report on the 1982 Malvinas war and on "the lack of diplomatic support" at the time. "It must not be forgotten," Luder said, "that the military government was contemptuous of neighbouring countries, which at one time it called 'tribal' and later asked for their solidarity when the fortunes of war went against us."

Saying that "there was no room for Marxism, social democracy and social Christian movements" in Argentina, Luder at another point said that as he was Mrs Peron's attorney for private affairs, "I never talk politics with her." He added that "nobody can deny that for 40 years workers have showed their fidelity to Peronism."

COB TO TAKE ACTION AGAINST U.S. AMBASSADOR

PY191257 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 18 Oct 83 p 5

[Text] La Paz (AFP) -- The Bolivian Labor Federation (COB) will take action against the U.S. ambassador, Edwin Corr, because of his latest statements, which have been branded as "unacceptable intervention in the country's internal affairs," it was reported here yesterday.

The U.S. ambassador had said that Bolivians have the right "to change the country's authorities constitutionally," and advised that economic measures be urgently adopted.

Ambassador Corr had also criticized the presence of communists in the government, noting that the communists disregard their artificial commitment to democracy and try to establish their dictatorship by force.

COB Permanent Secretary Noel Vasquez noted that "Ambassador Corr is irritating the Bolivian people."

He announced that action will be taken against the U.S. representative "if governmental authorities do not take action on the behavior of the Reagan government's representative in the country."

Vasquez said that the Bolivian workers "contributed to the cause of democracy during World War II with their efforts, exporting thousands of tons of tin to help the imperialist powers who were then fighting Nazi "fascism."

VICE PRESIDENT SCORES SILES GOVERNMENT

PY191940 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1700 GMT 19 Oct 83

[Text] The distant relationship that has developed between the vice president and President Hernan Siles is a result of the poor leadership of the democratic process, which has existed for only a little over a year. This statement was made by Jaime Paz Zamora while referring to the obvious lack of dialogue between the executive branch and the vice president. Paz Zamora said that this situation has led to complete division among the Bolivian people, perhaps worse than that which existing during the struggle to overthrow the dictatorship.

The vice president handed congressmen from four departments the river navigation improvement project for the Ichilo and Mamore Rivers during a ceremony held in the Green Room of the Chamber of Deputies this morning.

[Begin Paz recording] The distant relationship between the vice president and the president is a result of the poor leadership of the democratic process on the part of the executive branch. It is not the cause of the problems, but rather a result of them, and all the Bolivian people are now feeling the consequences of a leadership that does not benefit them. As a result of that leadership, the Bolivian people are now more divided than they were when they were struggling against the dictatorship. [end recording]

He stated that neither coup threats nor government incompetence provide any excuse for replacing the current process. The solutions must be provided through the mechanisms provided by democracy, Vice President Jaime Paz Zamora stated.

[Begin recording] [Paz] I believe that the Bolivian people cannot accept either coup threats or government incompetence. I believe both things are equally harmful to the democratic process and to the country; that is, it is not possible to try to conceal government bungling by saying that the wolf, meaning a coup, is at the door. Also, there cannot be militarymen announcing that they will stage a coup because the government is incompetent. I believe that the Bolivian people have a democratic solution to solve their problems, and I think we should keep that clearly in mind. In my opinion, a basic element of unity is that we need a government with enough moral and political strength to ensure the unity of all Bolivians to achieve the democratic development of this country.

[Question] Can the government be changed in a constitutional way?

[Paz] Well, many things (?can happen). I think that democracy implies that there are mechanisms of various kinds. I do not propose this right now, I am simply telling the Bolivian people to get away from this accursed vicious circle that leads to a coup when a government is bad. [end recording]

INTERIOR MINISTER ON DRUG TRAFFICKING IN CHAPARE

PY191326 Paris AFP in Spanish 0050 GMT 18 Oct 83

[Text] La Paz, 17 Oct (AFP) -- Interior Minister Federico Alvarez Plata said here today that the drug trafficking organization has become a state within the state. He made this statement after returning from a visit to Chapare, Cochabamba, in Bolivia's central region. Chapare is Bolivia's main coca-producing area. Minister Alvarez Plata had toured the region incognito. During a press conference Alvarez Plata pointed out that from Zinahota (in El Chapare) alone, (?1,000) kg of cocaine sulphate are shipped everyday in six planes in a perfectly syncronized flash operation to unknown destinations. He admitted that although he had witnessed these operations together with police authorities, they were not able to take any repressive measures since they lacked weapons and specialized personnel.

Alvarez Plata noted that during the past few years the Chapare population has increased fourfold and now totals almost 80,000 people. He pointed out that this could cause serious social problems should it be decided to indiscriminately substitute the coca plantation.

He pointed out that the lack of authorities in the region has led to the proliferation of brothels and venereal diseases since there is practically no sanitary control. Alvarez Plata also noted that the lack of authority is also reflected in the sale, on the streets of Zinahota, of all types of merchandise, ranging from weapons and domestic electrical appliances to vehicles, while the prices of staples cannot be compared to those in other cities.

He stated that his words are meant to draw the attention of the Bolivian people and the consumer countries to the need for cooperating with Hernan Siles Zuazo's government to eradicate this scourge, which constantly threatens the stability of the democratic process. He warned that the problem lay not only in repression, but that it had social, economic, and political roots which should be taken into account.

At the end of the press conference Alvarez Plata revealed photographs of U.S. and European youths in Zinahota presumably there to consume or market cocaine.

STATE OF EMERGENCY DECLARED IN BRASILIA

PY192222 Porto Alegre Radio Guaiba in Portuguese 2150 GMT 19 Oct 83

[Text] Brasilia -- Planalto Palace or the Justice Ministry will release very soon the text of a decree implementing emergency measures in Brasilia and the federal district.

This information was conveyed by Leitao de Abreu to Flavio Marcillo, president of the Chamber of Deputies. The measures, which will be in effect for 60 days, do not imply the closing of the Congress. The exact nature of the measures is yet to be disclosed, but the Constitution allows, among other things, the suspension of individual guarantees, the banning of meetings, arrests, and press censorship.

Just now we have received the report that President Figueiredo has actually decreed the state of emergency in the federal district in keeping with Article 158 of the Constitution. This article allows the president of the nation to decree the state of emergency whenever there is need for immediate measures as in the case of a war or to preclude or repress subversive activities. The second paragraph of the same article states that the state of emergency may not last for more than 90 days and that it can be extended for the same period of time if the reasons which warranted it in the first place persist.

Vote on Decree Law Nears

PY192239 Paris AFP in Spanish 2219 GMT 19 Oct 83

[Text] Brasilia, 19 Oct (AFP) -- Brazilian President General Joao Figueiredo tonight decreed a 60-day state of emergency in Brasilia and the federal district, acting on a request from the president of the federal Senate, according to an official announcement made today.

Even though the causes which have led to this decision have not been disclosed, polical circles in this capital have indicated that the aim is to prevent disturbances in Congress which will meet tonight to vote on a presidential decree law which aims to amend the law on salaries [Decree Law 2045].

Figueiredo Cancels Trip for Vote

PY192303 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 19 Oct 83

[Excerpt] President Joao Figueiredo suspended the trip he was to make this afternoon to Foz de Iguacu, where tomorrow he was to preside over the opening session of the 12th National Congress of Brazilian Courts of Accounts, and to meet local politicians. The decision was made at the suggestion of Minister Leitao de Abreu, the chief of the Civilian Household, taking into account the debate and possible vote on Decree Law 2045 by Congress. The vote may take place tonight.

Emergency Decree Released

PY192357 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2227 GMT 19 Oct 83

[Excerpts] President Joao Figueiredo decreed emergency measures for the federal district today. Presidential spokesman Carlos Atila announced the approval of the decree.

[Begin Atila recording] The president of the republic has just decreed emergency measures for the federal district. These measures are provided for by the Constitution and are aimed at guaranteeing that Comgress can discharge its duties in a peaceful atmosphere and without restrictions. [end recording]

The decree, bearing the number 88,888, reads: "On the basis of Article 155 of the Constitution, and taking into account the need to preserve public order in the federal district, it is hereby established that:

"Article 1. Emergency measures will be adopted as deemed necessary in the federal district.

"Single paragraph: the measures referred to in this article are those established under items (P, T, D, E) and G of paragraph 2 of Article 156 of the Constitution.

"Article 2. The Chief of the Planalto Military Command will be in charge of the implementation of the above measures.

"Article 3. The measures will be in force from 19 October to 17 December 1983."

The following reasons have been given for the approval of the decree:

The federal district, the seat of the government of the republic, has been the target of agitators who were recruited in several regions of our country. A considerable number of such agitators have arrived in Brasilia.

As in previous occasions, the action of those agitators is aimed at pressuring and (?using) congressmen. This has even jeopardized the physical integrity of congressmen, who have been practically unable to normally discharge their duties. The fact that one branch of the government has been unable to operate normally has implications for the other branches of government.

Such an unbearable and antidemocratic situation prompted the Senate president to request, in keeping with the law, that Congress be given guarantees to freely discharge its duties.

In response to the request submitted by the Senate president, the minister of justice, duly authorized by the head of the executive branch, asked the government of the federal district to adopt the necessary measures to make sure that Congress can fulfill its mission freely.

Decree Law 2045 Voted Down

PY200125 Paris AFP in Spanish 0052 GMT 20 Oct 83

[Text] Brasilia, 19 Oct (AFP) -- Tonight the Brazilian Congress rejected a presidentially sponsored decree law that was to have caused a decline in the purchasing power of salaries.

Decree Law 2045, which was signed on 14 July 1983, was rejected by the votes of the leaders of the five political parties (four opposition and one pro-government party). A new decree will be submitted tomorrow, to replace the rejected one.

Atmosphere 'Highly Tense'

PY200233 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0122 GMT 20 Oct 83

[Excerpts] Brasilia, 19 Oct (EFE) -- For 60 days Brasilia will be under a state of emergency levied tonight by General Joao Figueiredo amid a highly tense atmosphere created in Congress in connection with the vote on a new salary law.

The president included all coercive measures provided for by the state of emergency with the exception of banishment from the federal capital and censorship on press, telecommunications, and public entertainment.

The way it has been worded, the state of emergency allows for the search for and arrest of persons in their places of residence, the suspension of the freedom to hold meetings and join associations, along with the intervention of unions and professional associations throughout the federal district.

Hundreds of persons have arrived in Brasilia to stage demonstrations against the government salary policy and to support the opposition parties, which have the majority in the Chamber of Deputies, in their effort to vote down a decree which has been promised to the IMF.

The federal district has been placed under the command of an Army general known as a hardliner. He is Newton Cruz, commander of the central region and former head of the National Intelligence Service (SNI) Central Agency; the military intelligence.

Presidential spokesman Carlos Atila said that it was evident that there were "agitators" in Brasilia and that they had come "with the obvious intention to disrupt the work of the Congress."

This is the first time since 1978 that the Brazilian Government has resorted to exceptional measures. Federal security forces have been placed at the disposal of the president of the Congress and it is expected that tonight they will take positions around the Legislative Palace where the debates preliminary to the voting of the new salary law are going on.

KYODO: FIGUEIREDO CANCELS VISIT, CITES ILLNESS

OW200353 Tokyo KYODO in English 0321 GMT 20 Oct 83

[Text] Tokyo, Oct 20, KYODO -- Brazilian President Joao Baptista de [Oliveira] Figueiredo has decided to call off his scheduled visit to Japan this fall because of a heart ailment, officials said.

Foreign Ministry officials said Figueiredo revealed his decision in a personal letter addressed to Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone.

The letter was delivered to Nakasone by Diogo Nomura, the leader of a Brazilian goodwill delegation currently on a visit to Japan, they said.

In a courtesy call at the prime minister's official residence, Nomura also invited Nakasone to pay a visit to Brazil, the officials said. Nakasone told Nomura he would take the visit into consideration, but avoided a direct reply.

In his letter to Nakasone, Figueiredo said he could not make his trip to Japan scheduled for this autumn because of an unspecified heart ailment. The Brazilian president said he hoped to make the trip sometime next year.

Invited by the Japan-Brazil Parliamentary League, Nomura, chairman of Foreign Affairs Committee of the Chamber of Deputies, was touring Japan as the leader of a three-member goodwill mission.

FOREIGN MINISTER ON BOLIVIAN DEBT RESCHEDULING

PY181719 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 18 Oct 83

[Carlos Rodriguez relay from Brasilia]

[Text] Brazilian Foreign Minister Ramiro Saraiva Guerreiro [words indistinct] during a dinner honoring Bolivian Foreign Minister Jose Ortiz Mercado. Saraiva Guerreiro noted that developed countries have recommended developing countries to strictly control their balance of payments and, at the same time, they have adopted restrictive and increasingly sophisticated commercial measures that have closed their markets or prevented access to them. Saraiva Guerreiro said that Brazil and Bolivia have both suffered the effects of the current crisis, and that they should get the most out of bilateral cooperation and economic and commercial exchange.

Itamaraty spokesman Bernardo Pericas reported that the Bolivian foreign minister told Minister Saraiva Guerreiro about the Bolivian Government's wish to renegotiate the $215 million debt it owes Brazil. Bolivia would at least like more flexible terms and lower interest rates. Of the $215 million debt, $85 million was due in August. Minister Saraiva Guerreiro told the Bolivian minister that Brazil is politically interested in helping Bolivia, but that there is little chance for renegotiating the debt.

Pledges Continued Cooperation

PY190046 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 18 Oct 83

[Excerpt] Foreign Minister Saraiva Guerreiro, during a luncheon in his honor offered by Bolivian Foreign Minister Jose Ortiz Mercado at the Naval Club in Rio de Janeiro today, reiterated the Brazilian Government's desire to continue cooperating with the Bolivian Government within the limitations imposed by the current difficulties seeking to achieve the common ideal of prosperity for the two peoples.

According to Saraiva Guerreiro, Latin America will find, within its own sphere, the means to fight the increasing threat of an economic stagnation. He also pointed out that the development process requires two basic ingredients: the irreversible decision to seek development in various field and the need for the participation of all the sectors in the national project.

ARMY DENIES INVASION OF BOLIVIAN TERRITORY

PY190129 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 0230 GMT 18 Oct 83

[Text] Today the Brazilian Army Press Secretariat disclosed that Brazilian Army troops did not invade Bolivian territory. The communique points out that the Brazilian troop stations in Acre were carrying out routine maneuvers and that the Bolivian Army, which was also carrying out maneuvers in the area, was aware of this. Bolivian Foreign Minister Jose Ortiz Mercado, who arrived here today to meet with Minister Saraiva Guerreiro and the president of the republic, said that he only learned about this report through the newspapers.

PINOCHET DENIES RIFT, ACCEPTS STEPPED-UP PROCESS

PY200115 Paris AFP in Spanish 2353 GMT 19 Oct 83

[Text] Santiago, 19 Oct (AFP) -- Chilean President General Augusto Pinochet today gave assurances that a monolithic unity prevails within the Armed Forces that support his government. However, he reiterated that he will accept a plebiscite to amend the Constitution, convene congress, and speed up the return of democracy.

Pinochet also said that the free economy model that was imposed 10 years ago will be maintained; he denied alleged disagreements among his assistants as a result of the deep crisis that affects Chile and is characterized mainly by unemployment and a decline in industrial activities.

There is a great cohesion within the Armed Forces, the president said, when he referred to rumors that suggested the existence of disagreements among government Military Junta members.

There is perfect cohesion and monolithic unity among the institutions of the Armed Forces, the forces of order, and the security forces, he told reporters.

Rumors on disagreements in the government leadership circulated last week after government junta member General Fernando Matthei, the Air Force commander in chief, said that he was in favor of the return of the political parties that were outlawed 10 years ago. He also supported the convening of congress in 1986 instead of 1990, as is established in the Constitution that was approved by Pinochet.

The Chilean president, whose term should extend up until 1989 in keeping with the temporary constitutional provisons, on Monday admitted for the first time that his government is willing to permit the installation of congress before the date foreseen by the Constitution. This will call for a reform of the Constitution through a plebiscite.

We do not rule out that elections might be held on an earlier date, but it is necessary to call for a plebiscite first, Pinochet said today, reaffirming what he said yesterday.

The lack of a timetable for the restoration of democracy prompted the interruption of the dialogue that the government has held with the Democratic Alliance, a dissident coalition, since the end of August. This dialogue was sponsored by the Catholic Church in an effort to mitigate the social and political tensions arising from six days of national protest.

The leaders of the Alliance, a coalition made up of Rightist Republicans and members of the Christian Democratic, the Social Democratic, the Radical, and the Socialist Parties, discontinued the dialogue a week ago. Santiago Archbishop Monsignor Juan Francisco Fresno asked the government to set up deadlines and dates.

According to Pinochet, the next step will be the official recognition of political parties. Interior Minister Sergio Onofre Jarpa believes that this could be done next year.

Pinochet added that the second step will be the preparation of a new registry of voters, since the military destroyed the records existing in 1973, after the coup that overthrew Socialist President Salvador Allende.

In the economic area, where both the opposition and the church have criticized the application of the liberal scheme advocated by the Chicago school, Pinochet admitted the existence of faults that have worsened the problems that Chileans now have to face. The GNP dropped by 14.1 percent last year.

Nevertheless, Pinochet said that he has never thought of changing the economic model, and dismissed rumors of disagreements that prompted the resignation of Finance Minister Carlos Caceres last week. [as received]

However, the Chilean president expressed his support for the work of Minister Caceres, who played a major role in the renegotiation of the foreign debt and obtaining new credits. Minister Caceres will continue working for the government and that's all, Pinochet said.

More on Acceleration of Process

PY200202 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2311 GMT 19 Oct 83

[Text] Santiago, 19 Oct (EFE) -- Today President Augusto Pinochet established a term of 1 to 3 years for the return to democracy, if the necessary laws do not get "bogged down."

He said: "I cannot say whether this will take 2 or 3 years, although there are some people who say that it will be next year. However, sometimes laws get bogged down."

Pinochet added that the process needs a law of political parties, the creation of an electoral registry, and a plebiscite, so that the people can decide if there is a need to change the terms. He added: "If they want a change, a congress will be established, if they do not we will remain as we are."

The Chilean chief of state said that "to hold discussions, I must have the government supporters on one side and the opposition on the other. As there are no political parties, the first thing which must be done is to implement laws to organize them."

The chief of state added that the second stage includes the organization of electoral registries and that after this has been fulfilled "we shall see what comes next."

The president also said that "I never thought of changing the economic model" and that Finance Minister Carlos Caceres "will continue working for the government."

The first lady, Lucia Hiriart, also made political statements calling on government supporters to organize themselves "because the opposition has never stopped organizing itself."

Mrs Pinochet also discarded any dialogue with Marxists indicating that "there are people who talk about dialogue with the Marxists but by doing so they are only showing that they do not know them."

She said that a plebiscite must decide the establishment of a congress and a plebiscite must have political laws, because if a plebiscite of the type which approved the current Constitution is held "it would not be recognized eith here or abroad and then what would we get out of it?" Lucia de Pinochet labeled the dialogue sponsored by Interior Minister Sergio Jarpa as a "dialogue with the deaf because the opposition starts from the premise that Pinochet must go and who do they represent to say that?"

Regarding the term for the return to democracy, the first lady said that it is necessary for "the problem be resolved gradually so that an organized country can be handed over according to the terms established by the Constituion."

SEGUEL ADDRESSES RALLY; POLICE DISPERSE MARCH

PY191922 Paris AFP in Spanish 1358 GMT 19 Oct 83

[Text] Rancagua, 19 Oct (AFP) -- Chilean police used tear gas and nightsticks in holding back a group of antigovernment demonstrators who last night tried to take over the downtown area of this city, 100 km south of Santiago.

The march began after a meeting of several thousand people which was organized by a provincial workers command and the labor unions of the neighboring copper mine El Teniente, the largest underground mine in the world.

Rodolfo Seguel, the main speaker at the meeting, stated that the people say: Get out now. He was referring to the fact that the Armed Forces remain in power, which they took over 10 years ago, headed by President Augusto Pinochet.

The Chilean opposition, mainly formed by forces of the center and left which Seguel, who has been imprisoned several times, has joined, is requesting the establishment of a provisional government and a congress, the drawing up of a new constituion, and the holding of free elections.

The street demonstration developed without any incidents but the police acted in a decisive manner when several columns tried to advance toward the main plaza of this city.

The demonstrators chanted: It will fall, it will fall..., the government will fall.

It was officially disclosed that four persons were arrested.

CARABINEROS VAN AMBUSHED IN CAPITAL; TWO WOUNDED

PY191441 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 19 Oct 83

[Excerpt] Two carabineros were wounded when their van was ambushed while they were responding to a false alarm.

The van, belonging to the 26th Carabinero Precinct in Pudahuel, was ambushed at 2315 last night when it was responding to a false robbery alarm.

The van with plate number CK036 was attacked from the [words indistinct] with submachine fire when it reached 6319 Dorsal Street where the alleged robbery was taking place. The phone call was placed by a woman.

As a consequence of the attack, the carabinero driving the van was wounded while his companion sustained numerous cuts caused by metal splinters and glass from the shattered windshield.

MINISTER ANNOUNCES VERIFIED OIL RESERVES

PA131725 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1130 GMT 13 Oct 83

[Text] Natural Resources Minister Gustavo Galindo has stated that the country's verified and potential oil reserves amount to 1.6 billion barrels. He said that this is the conclusion of an audit by a French company.

[Begin Galindo recording] We have in the CEPE [Ecuadorean State Petroleum Corporation]-Texaco area 833,313,960 barrels of oil. This is verified. This was the figure as of 31 December 1982. In the CEPE-(CIPI) fields, we have 15,339,398 barrels as of the same date. All the figures we will give apply to that date. Later we will speak about the possibility of bringing this information up to date. In the fields CEPE is exploiting now, we have 83,447,359 barrels. This figure involves the fields of Bermejos, (Charapa), (Tepete), (Illarena), (Sansalari), (Chiripuno), (Caplon), etc. We have 142 million barrels elsewhere, making a verified grand total of 1.074 billion barrels. [end recording]

BRIEFS

INCREASED OIL PRODUCTION -- Quito, 30 Sep (EFE) -- Ecuador will increase its oil production from 230,000 to 262,000 barrels a day this year. The increased production will come from oilfields in the north and southeast. [Summary] [Madrid EFE in Spanish 0117 GMT 1 Oct 83 PA]

CEPE OIL SALES -- The Natural Resources Ministry has reported that it has authorized the Ecuadoran State Petroleum Enterprise to sell 350,000 barrels of oil to the Pegasus Petroleum Corporation at $29.72 per barrel. CEPE was also authorized to sell 120,000 barrels of fuel oil to Petrobras at $29.50 per barrel. [Excerpt] [Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1130 GMT 4 Oct 83 PA]

NEWSPAPER STRIKE -- Employees of newspaper the EL TIMEPO in this city have just declared an indefinite strike. The leaders of the firm's labor union said that this measure has been adopted because a series of agreements and contractual obligations are not being complied with as stipulated by law and in the corresponding collective contract. The newspaper offices, located in the northern part of Quito, have been taken over by the workers, who have said they will remain there until their situation is resolved. [Text] [Quito Cadena Ecuador Radio in Spanish 2300 GMT 17 Oct 83 PA]

COFFEE QUOTA -- The fourth international coffee agreement was signed this year, to set the members' quotas for the next 6 years. Ecuador was assigned a quota that represents 2.17 percent of the agreement's overall export quota, which totals 52 million sacks. [Excerpt] [Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1130 GMT 6 Oct 83 PA]

STROESSNER PRESIDES OVER 38TH IA-ECOSOC MEETING

PY181740 Asuncion HOY in Spanish 18 Oct 83 pp 10, 11

[Excerpts] President Alfredo Stroessner presided over the opening session of the 18th ministerial meeting of the Inter-American Economic and Social Council (IA-ECOSOC) of the OAS. The session was held at the Guarani Hotel auditorium at 1000 yesterday.

It should be noted that the meeting is being attended by the ministers of the commercial, financial, economic, and planning sectors of most IA-ECOSOC member countries.

The Paraguayan delegation, which is hosting the meeting, is the largest one and is headed by Industry and Commerce Minister Delfin Ugarte Centurion.

Minister Centurion, who was elected president of the meeting during the first plenary session, spoke on behalf of the national government. Ambassador Val T. McComie spoke on behalf of IA-ECOSOC.

Nicaraguan Delegation Arrives

PY192013 Asuncion HOY in Spanish 19 Oct 83 p 10

[Text] The Nicaraguan delegation to the 18th IA-ECOSOC ministerial meeting arrived in Asuncion yesterday afternoon. Made up of Horacio Melendez and Armin Santamaria Cano, the delegation was received at the airport by the Mexican charge d'affaires. It was learned that the passports of the two diplomats were stamped with visas at the Paraguayan Consulate in Buenos Aires.

After their arrival at the Guarani Hotel, where room No 911 had been reserved for them, they declined to make any kind of statement. They left their bags in their room and went to the hotel's auditorium; they also refused to make any comments later.

It should be also noted that the Grenadian representative failed to show up because of the situation that her country is going through. It is not known whether she will arrive in the next few hours.

BELAUNDE VOICES CONFIDENCE IN CANDIDATE

PY191434 Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 10 Oct 83 p 4

[Excerpt] President Fernando Belaunde yesterday expressed his confidence that Alfonso Grados will win the November municipal elections and disclosed that the Popular Action Party will participate in the 1985 presidential elections with its own candidate.

The president pointed out that the reason Grados Bertorini is running as an independent candidate for mayor of Lima is owing to the attempt to keep parties and politics out of City Hall and make it more accessible to the public.

HAVANA ON ANTISOCIAL CUBANS IN PERU

Reports Possible Move

PA150030 Havana International Service in Quechua 2200 GMT 13 Oct 83

[Text] Javier Velarde, the Peruvian housing and construction minister, has announced that the antisocial Cubans currently living in Tupac Amaru Park, in the San Luis neighborhood, may be transferred to the outskirts of Lima. A large group of antisocial Cubans has been living in the San Luis neighborhood for several years.

Notes Arrest

PA170223 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 17 Oct 83

[Text] Antisocial Cuban Hilario Corrales Hernandez has been accused in Lima of crimes against public order, the authority of the state, and the Peruvian Constitution.

According to the newspaper LA PRENSA, Corrales, who has also used the names Lorenzo Diaz Perez and Isaac Loaiza Carrera, obtained documents as a Peruvian citizen from that country's consulate in New York. It added that U.S. immigration officials sent Corrales to Peru, where he was arrested by immigration police when it was proven that he was not Peruvian.

Corrales is part of the antisocial element that left Cuba through the port of Mariel following the 1980 invasion of the Peruvian Embassy in Havana.

HAVANA CITES BELAUNDE ON CAPITAL PUNISHMENT

PA190425 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 19 Oct 83

[Text] During a news conference in Lima, Peruvian President Fernando Belaunde Terry reiterated his support of capital punishment for crimes that fall under the category of terrorism.

The Peruvian Government has sent a constitutional amendment to Congress that includes the death penalty for members of armed groups operating in Peru.

This severe measure has generally been disapproved by the opposition.

In a statement to the newspaper MARKA, Deputy Javier Diaz Canseco charged that a total of 120 persons have disappeared between July and October this year in Ayacucho Department. Diaz Canseco added that General Clemente Noel Moral, chief of the political-military command of the emergency zone, is responsible for these actions and other crimes committed in this department.

Another report says that three policemen were wounded during an attack on the Civil Guard post in Yercay, Huancavelica Department.

COSTA RICA'S MONGE CONCLUDES 'FRUITFUL' VISIT

Information Minister Praises Talks

FL182358 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1955 GMT 18 Oct 83

[Excerpt] Mexico City, 18 Oct (NOTIMEX) -- Armando Vargas, Costa Rican minister of information, today said that the talks between Costa Rican President Luis Alberto Monge and his Mexican counterpart Miguel de la Madrid were very positive. Vargas also expressed confidence that this afternoon in their second round of talks, the two leaders would reach concrete agreements on matters of commercial exchange, economic cooperation, and other subjects.

Havana Cites De la Madrid

PA191925 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 19 Oct 83

[Text] Mexican President Miguel de la Madrid has condemned the aggressive attitude of the United States as well as its desire to impose its system on nations that have their own particular history. Yesterday, receiving Costa Rican President Luis Alberto Monge at the National Palace, De la Madrid noted the importance of safeguarding national sovereignty and territorial integrity in Central America.

Mexican Senator Gonzalo Martinez Corbala referred to De la Madrid's statement, noting that Mexico's president was very clear. He said that although Monge's comments on the Mexican revolution are praiseworthy, he should understand that the Salvadoran and Nicaraguan revolutions are the result of specific situations resulting from injustice and oppression.

The Mexican senator scored the arrogant statement made by Henry Kissinger, chairman of the U.S. Bipartisan Commission for Central America, who said that force has not been discarded as a solution to the crisis.

Political Groups Warn Monge

FL182318 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1900 GMT 18 Oct 83

[Text] Mexico City, 18 Oct (NOTIMEX) -- Costa Rican President Luis Alberto Monge has been warned by various political organizations in this capital to put an end to the counterrevolutionary actions which are being launched from his country to destabilize the Sandinist regime. A total of 14 organizations took advantage of Monge's visit to Mexico to send a document to him through the Costa Rican Embassy. The document stated that for his own security he should, once and for all, put a halt to the anti-Sandinist bands operating from his country.

The document cited the attacks orchestrated by U.S. imperialism against Latin American countries. It pointed out that the objective of the imperialists is to maintain and strengthen its economic, political, military, and cultural domination of Central America and the rest of Latin America. It added that the sovereignty, independence, and liberty of Costa Rica and Mexico are not safe.

Some of the organizations which signed the document were the Unified Socialist Party of Mexico (PSUM), the Popular Socialist Party (PPS), the Revolutionary Workers Party (PRT), and the Hands off Nicaragua Committee [Comite Manos Fuera de Nicaragua], among others.

Elsewhere, the Committee of Solidarity With Costa Rican Political Prisoners delivered a statement to the press citing that country's contradictions when it says it struggles to establish peace in Central America but permits the actions of Somozist forces against the Nicaraguan Government.

Press Conference Cancelled

FL192046 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2025 GMT 19 Oct 83

[Text] Mexico, 19 Oct (NOTIMEX) -- Costa Rica's President Luis Alberto Monge inopportunely cancelled a press conference that was scheduled as a part of his 3-day official visit to this city. About 100 Mexican and foreign reporters were waiting in a Mexico City hotel for the Costa Rican president, who is today concluding a state visit in which he has said that he was returning the affection he had always felt for Mexico.

Costa Rican officials excused the cancellation by saying that it was not possible to hold the press conference because a joint communique will be issued. However, it is traditional for visiting heads of state to hold press conferences even when a joint communique is issued.

Monge Comments on Visit

FL200210 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2258 GMT 19 Oct 83

[Text] Mexico City, 19 Oct (NOTIMEX) -- Costa Rican President Luis Alberto Monge said the talks he had with President Miguel de la Madrid strengthened the political will of the two countries to work together in the struggle to achieve peace, freedom, and progress for the people of Central America. Interviewed before departing for his country, the Costa Rican president also stressed that there were concrete and specific results at the regional policy level which demonstrated complete agreement between Mexico and Costa Rica.

Luis Alberto Monge described his visit to Mexico as fruitful and positive because the two sides reached concrete and definite agreements concerning regional policy in Central America. He pointed out that the next Contadora Group meeting to be held in Panama will seek solutions and mechanisms to establish peace in Central America.

The Costa Rican president and his delegation arrived at the presidential hangar of the international airport 10 minutes before they were expected to meet with Mexican Foreign Secretary Bernardo Sepulveda Amor and the ambassadors of Mexico and Costa Rica, Luisa Maria Leal and Marcelo Prieto Jimenez, respectively.

STRIKE, PROTESTS LEAVE STUDENTS, POLICE WOUNDED

PA191614 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0819 GMT 19 Oct 83

[Excerpt] Mexico City, 19 Oct (EFE) -- The 12-hour strike called yesterday by leftwing organizations to protest the government's austerity policy resulted in sporadic shooting, burning of vehicles, personal injuries, and great tension.

More than 2 million persons joined the protest demonstration, which echoed in the National Congress, although rightwing organizations and the ruling Institutional Revolutionary Party considered the strike a failure. Most businesses opened their doors in this capital, but the protest produced a large turnout in states such as Guerrero, where social differences are enormous.

The protagonists of the protest staged marches and rallies, peacefully occupied public buildings, and in some cases clashed with the police. It was the first nationwide strike carried out in several cities of the country since President Miguel de la Madrid took power a little more than 10 months ago.

In Chilpancingo, capital of Guerrero State, university students blocked the streets surrounding the university with tires and vehicles. At the central plaza of that township, some 2,000 students asked the state government to clamp down on abusive merchants and to take measures against inflation.

In the clashes between the students and police in Chilpancingo, eight students and five policemen were wounded.

In Guerrero State two police patrol cars were destroyed, two policemen were beaten, shots were fired at policemen, and students were beaten with sticks.

In Oaxaca, Nayarit, and Mexico States, teachers, students, and workers gathered in the leading cities to participate in marches and rallies called by the leftist parties.

In Ciudad Juarez, on the U.S. border, groups of teachers, workers, and settlers joined the students, who were protesting yesterday's attacks on them by antiriot police and the arrest of 18 fellow students during a demonstration.

At the Acapulco beach resort, in Guerrero State, several students from a high school attended by workers fired at a police patrol. Meanwhile, sympathizers of the opposition political parties which issued the call for this strike at a national level continue blocking access to Acapulco and its airport, thus stranding dozens of tourists.

In Oaxaca State, in the country's southeast, the strike affected 800,000 students at all levels, and educational authorities said they will dock the salaries of the teachers who did not report for classes.

In the city of Ecatepec, located in Mexico State near Mexico City, some 5,000 students, workers, and members of opposition parties gathered at several commercial centers to stage protests against the federal government.

BRIEFS

ECOLOGISTS TO USSR -- Conzalo Halffter Salas, ecologist and joint director of scientific development for the National Council for Science and Technology (CONACYT) will lead a Mexican delegation to the USSR, where some 800 ecology experts from throughout the world will meet to assess environmental deterioration and related aspects. The meeting will take place in the city of Minsk, in the Belorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, from 26 September to 2 October. Ecologists Pedro Reyes Castillo, Carlos Montano, and Ezequiel Escurra are also in the delegation. [Summary] [Mexico City EL DIA in Spanish 25 Sep 83 p 3 PA]

NEW SUPREME COURT JUDGE -- Fausta Moreno Flores, the newly appointed Supreme Court judge, assumed office yesterday. [Summary] [Mexico City UNOMASUNO in Spanish 21 Sep 83 p 22 PA]

PAREDES DISCUSSES DEFENSE LAW, ELECTIONS

PA130436 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 12 Oct 83 pp 10A, 11A

[Excerpts] In a statement to this newspaper, General Ruben Dario Paredes, former commander in chief of the National Guard, has said that with the adoption of the law on the Defense Forces, Panama has reverted to the era when there was a head of government. Paredes made the following remarks to LA PRENSA at the Marriott Hotel in Panama City:

I am under the impression that General Noriega accepted in a very positive vein the suggestion I made through LA NACION INTERNACIONAL that the recent law on the Armed Forces should be amended, not abolished.

This was a worthy and meritorious gesture and I am trying to write a letter to General Noriega before I leave for the United States and Europe, to congratulate him on this gesture and to tell him that, in my humble opinion, the law should be amended, not repealed.

Question: You said that you have not seen General Noriega in the last few days. How are your relations with him? Have the professional ties between you been broken?

Answer: My relations with General Noriega have always been very good. Naturally, when one leaves an institution there is a sort of estrangement, or separation, which obviously does not go beyond the scope of one's activities.

Question: What were you referring to when you told General Noriega not to use his position as a political launching pad? Do you think he might be interested in entering politics?

Answer: That's a good question. I did not mean to say that either General Noriega or any member of the National Guard General Staff wants to use the armed forces to seek the presidency.

I was referring to the law on the armed forces and not to anyone in particular. I think that the law should be drafted in such a way as to ensure that no officer who becomes commander in chief or a member of the General Staff today, or 50 years from now, takes advantage of his position to seek the presidency. My comment was not directed at any one of the current officers.

Referring to a report in LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA that the elections may be postponed, Paredes said he disagrees with any postponement of the elections "one second beyond" May 1984, as the promise made to 400,000 Panamanians who have never had an opportunity to vote must be kept.

It would be risky for anyone to try to postpone or call off the upcoming elections. I hope that the current government leaders -- in this case, President Ricardo de la Espriella -- will have the good sense not to make such a mistake. Perhaps nothing would actually happen, but indeed there would be the risk that much could happen, he said.

Question: General, when you withdrew your candidacy, you left the government without a political standardbearer. Would you care to make a prediction about the elections?

Answer: I relinquished my candidacy for two reasons. First, I thought that as outgoing commander in chief, I had too many advantages as a candidate. Second, there was a trend toward what I would describe as continuism. For instance, if those guilty of wrongdoing at the Social Security Fund are not punished the duty to the nation will not be fulfilled.

As soon as I felt that it was becoming difficult to carry the democratization process to completion, I thought it would be best for me to withdraw from the race. I thought the transition should take place with the candidates and political forces that are currently active in Panama.

As things are now, I think the government faces a very difficult political situation. I wish I didn't have to say this. I feel that I am part of this government, since I left it only 1 and 1/2 months ago.

Regarding the Social Security Fund, General Paredes believes that former Attorney General Rafael Rodriguez should return to Panama in order to shed light on some of the salient aspects of the case.

Since I will be visiting the United States at the invitation of Duran [Panamanian boxing champion Roberto Duran], I plan to visit Rafael Rodriguez and talk with him. I hope to find him in a calm mood so that he will tell me, as one Panamanian to another, what led him to set a deadline of 0700 one morning for the government to clarify some matters he required as extremely serious.

Rafael Rodriguez is an important link in this investigation. The Social Security case should be resolved once and for all so the citizens can have lasting peace of mind regarding it. Naturally, I feel that the guilty parties must definitely be held accountable to the authorities.

Question: General, you have said that Ricardo Arias Calderon [president of the Christian Democratic Party] and Olimpo Saez [president of the Popular Nationalist Party] are two outstanding Panamanians. Would you support them, or would you remain within the ranks of the government?

Answer: I belong to the silent majority. I wil fulfill my duty of voting in May 1984, and I will vote for one of the politicians whom I regard as exemplary.

There are many Panamanians who have Olimpo Saez's qualities. They are unassuming people who will not allow political power to rest with a small group of families who, while playing an important political role, must not continue to enjoy the privilege of ruling the country forever.

A new political class must emerge in Panama. I have singled our Arias Calderon and Saez, and I would add Carlos Ivan Zuniga to the list. I single them out because they are honest politicians who opposed me with dignity and spoke their minds sincerely. I respect this kind of attitude. I view them as political rivals, but not as personal rivals. I would recommend that our citizens consider them because we must not return to a system in which power is wielded to serve the interests of business consortiums. We must not allow power to be used to cater to the vested interests of the powerful classes of this country.

Question: Would you state your views regarding the creation of four posts of general?

Answer: The law on the Defense Forces was enacted hastily and requires amendment. As an ordinary citizen, I feel that if, based on this law, the president and the commander in chief decide to appoint four generals, Panama would look extremely ridiculous. However, with the same sincerity and honesty, I feel that in 1988 or 1989, when the work of the Panama Canal Commission will be transferred exclusively to Panama, and when Panama's forces will be increased to fill the void left by the U.S. forces, then the appointment of a second general might be justified.

Before I left the post of commander in chief, I left a memorandum saying that those who join the National Guard after 1985 must serve 30 years instead of 25, as was the case then. The article did not go far enough on this point, because I stated in my memorandum that the article should not be retroactive. This article must not apply to anyone who is currently on active duty. This point must be clearly defined, and Article 35 must be carefully reviewed. It is an extremely important article because it defines where the majesty of the fatherland lies. It must be clearly stated that when the commander in chief completes his time in service, he must place his position at the disposal of the president, in writing and in a public ceremony.

Paredes said that the law requires that any serviceman aspiring to become a member of the General Staff must hold the rank of officer and must have risen through the ranks, beginning from the position of sub-lieutenant. In this way, he said, enlisted men are denied the possibility of becoming members of the General Staff. As we all know, the history of our Armed Forces has hundreds of examples of officers who began their careers as enlisted men. I am certain that there was no ill-intent on the part of General Noriega and the General Staff in this regard. However, the article must be amended, Paredes said.

Question: There is an obvious coincidence between the points Gen Noriega raised about the law and the ones you have raised. Have both of you, by any chance, agreed on what you were going to say publicly about it?

Answer: We have not reached prior agreements on anything. The coincidence shows that relations between us have always been cordial, and that he has faith and confidence in my good judgment and my opinions.

I believe that Noriega's and the General Staff's decision to ask the president to amend the law reflects a sincere and genuine belief that the law cannot remain as it is. I am grateful to them for accepting my views.

Question: A few days ago the Popular Action Party [PAPO] said this law turns Panama into a police state. What do you think?

Answer: I think that the PAPO, which is led by [Carlos Ivan] Zuniga, is right on that point. I believe that when Zuniga talked about a police state, he referred to the provision of the law stating that anyone who shows disrespect for a policeman is subject to a mandatory 30-60 day prison sentence. I think the law would be more proper if this type of provision were removed. This type of function is more applicable to a mayor or a corregidor. Why put this type of provision in a law on the Armed Forces?

Question: There was a great deal of speculation after you stepped down as commander in chief and withdrew your presidential candidacy. There was talk about differences between you and some civilian government officials. Others have commented that when Gen Noriega sent his letter to the executive branch asking for amendments to the law on the Armed Forces, the two of you were building a bridge between yourselves. What bridge?

Answer: There is no need to build a bridge when there is one in service. I think that Gen Noriega demonstrated he has a great sense of responsibility and regard for a former superior and friend, and that he took my words as they were intended -- sincerely.

As for the elections, Paredes said that the country's economic crisis should not be seen as a reason to postpone the elections. The last loan obtained by the government included the sum required by the Electoral Tribunal for the elections.

PST COMMUNIQUE CALLS GOVERNMENT 'PRO-IMPERIALIST'

PA160416 Panama City YA in Spanish 15 Oct 83 pp 1, 19

[Article by Carlos J. Nunez L.]

[Text] The Worker's Socialist Party (PST) has issued a virulent communique to mark the 15th anniversary of the military coup d'etat.

According to the socialists, "the government is both pro-imperialist and against the poor." At the same time they proposed a number of urgent measures, including a public works plan that would create jobs for the unemployed.

In another part of the communique they state: "We, the socialists, have repeatedly declared that the De la Espriella-Noriega government is an enemy of the Panamanian people; it is the best government for the liberals, the Christian Democrats, the PALA [Labor Party], Dulcidio Gonzalez, and the bosses and landowners in general." As evidence of this, the PST points to the dismissal of three philosophy and social science professors on the grounds that they presented a program of studies encompassing all currents of thought. It also notes the government's promotion -- together with Mayin, [newswoman Mayin Correa], Alarcon [secretary general of the Authentic Independent Teachers] (who organized the 1982 teachers' strike against the government), and the parties of the loyal "opposition [quotation marks as published] -- of a campaign against "communism" aimed at preventing the workers from fighting hunger and unemployment as our Central American brothers are doing.

The PST also recalls that the government has refused for 7 consecutive years to recognize the Guaymi district.

As further proof of the pro-imperialist orientation of the current government, the socialists mention the following: the strict austerity plan imposed by the IMF, the payment made to the Boston Coconut Company, the imposition of the National Defense Forces law, our return as "observers" to CONDECA [Central American Defense Council], the misuse of reverted lands, and the welcome given to Kissinger, whose mission is to launch aggressive attacks on the peoples of Central America.

The PST concludes by calling for the defense of the Central American revolution, the rejection of any amendment to the labor code or to the education statute, and the implementation of a price freeze and a public works plan.

EDITORIAL COMMENTS ON USE OF REVERTED LANDS

PA151411 Panama City LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 13 Oct 83 p 4

[Editorial: "The Reverted Lands"]

[Text] The public is closely observing everything concerning the Panamanian people's great legacy: the lands being returned to the country as a result of the Torrijos-Carter treaties.

These lands are suitable for many things and they attract the attention of many people interested in transforming them into sources of wealth for the country and services for the people, using them to generate jobs that are much needed at this time, and putting them to proper social use.

However, they also attract the attention of many people interested in taking possession of them, at almost no cost, by proposing dazzling projects that in the long-run will not benefit the country but will greatly benefit those people who, if they obtain concessions, will use this legacy for their personal gain or the gain of groups with similar interests.

We must take an important fact into account. Some people thoughtlessly suggest that the reverted lands be put up for auction by the government, without taking other very important interests into consideration. These lands have actually become the communal lands [ejidos] of the districts of Panama, Colon, and Arraijan. This is especially true for the two large districts where there are canal terminals -- Panama and Colon -- which lost their communal lands during the early days of the republic. These communal lands became the property of private citizens in a sort of scramble that did not have advantageous results for the country.

Actually, since these lands that are now reverting to the nation were given away by the Treaty of 1903, they were saved from the appropriations, which were often illegal. We repeat -- this must not happen in the areas adjacent to the cities of Panama and Colon. The reverted lands are very valuable. They represent millions of balboas and must be used not only for the benefit of the three adjacent districts but also as a source of national wealth benefitting the entire country.

The future use of the canal lands should be the subject of an extensive national debate. We agree that they should not be left idle. Let us use them to generate wealth and to solve problems, to create jobs and to build homes. However, this must be done in an orderly fashion, within a carefully designed set of regulations, cautiously, and with the participation of the muncipalities concerned.

CHIRIQUI LAND COMPANY WORKERS CALL STRIKE

PA181852 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 1815 GMT 18 Oct 83

[Text] During a meeting that concluded a few minutes ago, Chiriqui Land Company workers called an indefinite strike to demand payment of 184,000 balboas owed them by the company. The workers are demanding compliance with the drinking water and housing agreement and a ruling by the Supreme Court of Justice on back wages due them. The workers also denounced the company's refusal to negotiate a collective bargaining contract and its noncompliance with working hour and other agreements. We will offer further details of the situation in Puerto Armuelles in this evening's newscast.

BRIEFS

NEWSPAPER PERSONNEL CHANGES -- Luis Estribi has been appointed coordinating editorial director for the daily CRITICA [Director Coordinator del Editorial de CRITICA]. He was formerly the director of this newspaper. Luis Quintero Barria has been named assistant director. [Summary] [Panama City YA in Spanish 17 Oct 83 p 4 PA]

NATIONAL GUARD APPOINTMENTS -- Lieutenant Colonel Eros Ramiro Cal was sworn in today as chief of the Panama Police, replacing Lieutenant Colonel Julian Melo. Melo has been appointed executive secretary to the National Guard commander. [Excerpt] [Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2300 GMT 17 Oct 83 PA]

PANAMANIAN FOREIGN MINISTER ON CONTADORA MEETING

PA200119 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2300 GMT 19 Oct 83

[Interview with Panamanian Foreign Minister Oyden Ortega by an unidentified Televisora Nacional reporter on 19 October in Panama City -- recorded]

[Excerpt] [Ortega] The ninth round of talks by the Mexican, Colombian, Venezuelan, and Panamanian foreign ministers takes place at a time we consider decisive and crucial. The problems in the Central American area demand bold, immediate action and the Contadora Group has sufficient international authority to try and seek the objective of peace. In the first place, this time we are going to concentrate on a work meeting with the Contadora Group technical commission, at the deputy minister level, to draft peace proposals for the region, and also security agreements.

On Saturday morning, the Contadora Group foreign ministers and technical teams will analyze these documents, which will be submitted at a future meeting with the other foreign ministers of the Central American area. They will receive these documents ahead of time, and the Contadora Group will see that they are signed, in order to have a specific, a definite decision by the countries as a fast way to peace.

[Reporter] Mr Foreign Minister, at this ninth meeting of the Contadora Group, something new has been introduced, which is the holding of meetings with the ambassadors to Central America. What is the specific objective of this meeting?

[Ortega] We have reached a new stage in which we expect to reach specific agreements. For this reason, we are holding meetings with the ambassadors to the five Central American countries to tell them what has been achieved so far by the Contadora Group and what can be done in the future. These ambassadors represent us in these countries, and they should be properly informed.

COSTA RICA

25 ARRESTED IN DEMONSTRATION OVER HOUSING

PA190437 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0030 GMT 19 Oct 83

[Excerpt] A total of 25 people were arrested today for participating in protests against the government over housing problems. As had been announced by the National Patriotic Committee [Comite Patriotic Nacional -- COPAN], its representatives in various parts of the country blocked roads in areas such as (Los Cepillos), Alajuelita, Heredia, Alajuela, and [name indistinct]. The government had warned that no more barricades would be allowed in the country, and therefore all objects placed by the demonstrators were removed. Some 400 police officers removed the barricades and arrested those who offered resistance, said Colonel Oscar Vidal, the Civil Guard director.

Col Vidal added that only 4 of the 25 people arrested are still being held by the authorities. The majority of the arrests occurred in Heredia -- a total of 18 -- and the rest in Alajuela. Most of these persons were released after a meeting with Col Vidal.

We have been told that the reason the four persons arrested in Alajuela were not released is that a police officer was seriously injured by a stone.

Vidal said that he was satisfied, because although some 400 men had to intervene to maintain order, this was the only incident. There has been a positive aspect to this experience, and this is that the majority of Costa Ricans have expressed their repudiation of this way of requesting solutions for social problems, Col Vidal concluded.

Representatives of COPAN have promised Housing Ministry officials that they will not block any more roads to demand a solution for the country's housing problems. COPAN and government representatives met today to analyze the situation regarding the organization's demands due to the shortage of houses and the policy that the Monge administration has implemented to solve the problem. Representatives of COPAN and the Executive Branch will continue working toward an overall and permanent solution to the housing problem, said Marco Antonio Lopez Gonzalez, director of the Housing Ministry.

EL SALVADOR

REPORTAGE ON MILITARY ACTIVITY IN COUNTRY

Guerrilla Sabotage in East

PA190442 San Salvador EL MUNDO in Spanish 17 Oct 83 p 3

[Excerpts] San Miguel, 17 Oct -- Reports have been here this morning about clashes taking place near Sesori and San Luis de La Reina, where the guerrillas "have become stronger." It has been reported that these clashes are part of an operation recently started by the Army. The operation is still underway in the eastern zone of the country. There is no information about the number of casualites suffered by the Armed Forces or the FMLN rebels. According to reports, the guerrillas have blown up electric tower No 261, near Chinameca, with dynamite. This left a large part of San Miguel, Usulutan, Morazan, and La Union Departments without electricity.

Rebel Casualties in East High

PA190438 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1730 GMT 18 Oct 83

[Text] The Armed Forces began a counterinsurgency operation today against guerrilla hideouts on Guazapa Hill, only 30 km north of San Salvador. Military reports state that special antiguerrilla units started their advance early this morning, climbing the steep slopes of Guazapa Hill. At the same time, A-37 airplanes attacked rebel positions in the area that had been discovered by army reconaissance teams.

This is part of only one of the many operations launched to prevent the reorganization of subversives in Guazapa, as has been reported by high military sources to YSKL reporters.

The Armed Forces shelled leftist positions near the town of Tenancingo last night, according to information gathered by national and international newsmen in the zone of Santa Cruz Michapa. The bombardment was directed against rebels regrouping near the desolate town of Tenancingo. The artillery fire came in response to civilian reports asserting that leftists are still occupying parts of Tenancingo. The town was abandoned by its residents more than a month ago.

Meanwhile, military civic action brigades are offering assistance to those fleeing from Tenancingo, many of whom are sleeping out in the open in the village of Santa Cruz Michapa. The town was also the target of a rebel attack two nights ago. The Armed Forces have not reported any casualties in that incident.

According to communiques issued by the Armed Forces Press Committee, government troops have killed more than 500 FMLN rebels during the last 10 days of military operations in the eastern part of the country. Some 174 rebels were killed on San Vincente Volcano alone. Similarly, in Usulutan Department some 150 rebels were killed during the occupation of Villa El Transito and the operations in Jucuapa. The official reports concerning the military operation north of Lolotique state that an additional 70 rebels have been killed. Lastly, in the sector of Sesori, some 124 FMLN fighters have lost their lives in clashes with the government's battalions.

The counterinsurgency operations in the east have ended for the time being according to military sources.

Suchitoto Official Warns Citizens

PA190448 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 1800 GMT 18 Oct 83

[Jose Carlos Hernandez, secretary of the Suchitoto mayoralty, interviewed by an unidentified Radio Cadena YSU reporter; date and place not given -- live or recorded]

[Excerpts] [Reporter] Mr Hernandez, what is the current situation in Suchitoto?

[Hernandez] Well, my dear friend, Suchitoto has been cut off since yesterday because a number of obstacles have been placed on the highway. These obstacles are roadblocks erected by the subversives.

[Reporter] Has there been any shooting in Suchitoto during the last few hours?

[Hernandez] This morning, at about 0630, an Air Force plane flew over the town and is believed to have strafed the highway. The town has been without electricity since dawn yesterday. We are afraid because we have received messages from the rebels saying that they will enter the town at any moment. We ask the government and the Armed Forces -- before we must mourn any such disaster as befell our brothers in Tenancingo and Santa Cruz Michapa -- to help us. It is better to prepare ourselves. The truth is that the rebels have said they will come.

Subversives in San Miguel Surrounded

PA192245 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 19 Oct 83 pp 2, 27

[Excerpts] San Miguel -- According to unofficial reports, a large subversive column has been surrounded by three counterinsurgency battalions in the eastern zone of Morazan Department, and its chances of escaping are very slim. Clashes have been going on for several days in Sociedad and Corinto. There have been no official reports on these clashes. Obviously there is some fighting going on, because a large number of troops were seen leaving Gotera in that direction and gunfire can be clearly heard in that zone.

People coming from Sociedad have reported that the Army dislodged the subversives from their positions in Tablon canton, where they had their camps, and that the subversives are trying to escape in all directions. But wherever they go, they are met by the troops that are closing in on them.

Meanwhile, the subversives are still in control of all the northern part of Morazan Department.

Havana on Bombing of Rebels

PA190413 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 19 Oct 83

[Excerpt] The Salvadoran Air Force today bombed positions thought to held by the rebels along the highway from San Salvador to Suchitoto. The latter has been under guerrilla occupation since yesterday. Military sources representing the Salvadoran tyranny have reported that government troops have clashed with patriots in Santa Elena, Usulutan Department, and in Ciudad Barrios, San Miguel Department. Thus far, there have been no casualty reports.

Havana on FMLN Siege of Suchitoto

PA192125 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 19 Oct 83

[Text] FMLN units are maintaining a siege around the city of Suchitoto, near Guazapa Hill and only 40 km from the capital of San Salvador.

Military sources in San Salvador believe that the guerrillas' tactical objective is to attract Salvadoran Army reinforcements to the road that leads to Suchitoto, to launch harassment and attrition operations, and eventually to attack the regime's troops near the country's largest hydroelectric centrals, which are located near Suchitoto.

Other rebel detachments have attacked Salvadoran Army units in the town of Santa Elena, Usulutan Department, and in Ciudad Barrios, San Miguel Department, but so far there are no reports on the results of these clashes.

According to reports, a statement made recently to the Kissinger Commission by Major Roberto D'Aubuisson, president of the Salvadoran Constituent Assembly, has produced a big shock in San Salvador. D'Aubuisson told the commission about the ties that exist between the death squads and the Armed Forces, the police, and the security organization of El Salvador.

GUATEMALA

SALVADORAN FOREIGN MINISTER MAKES STATEMENT

PA200130 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 19 Oct 83

[Text] During a meeting today in Guatemala City with Guatemalan Head of State Oscar Mejia Victores and Guatemalan Foreign Minister Fernando Andrade, Salvadoran Foreign Minister Fidel Chavez Mena reiterated his concern over the prevalence of conflicts in Central America.

Chavez Mena made a short official visit to Guatemala at the invitation of the Guatemalan Foreign Ministry. Among other things, the two foreign ministers discussed matters of common interest for the two nations, Chavez Mena reported.

[Begin Chavez Mena recording] [Words indistinct] for El Salvador is to maintain a close and friendly relationship with Guatemala. This relationship is fundamental for us, because in this manner we will constantly be able to strengthen our relations with Guatemala. For this reason, I gladly accepted the invitation extended by my colleague, Foreign Minister Andrade, so I could visit him today, specifically in order to formulate new work programs and new stages for our relations.

As the Salvadoran foreign minister, I am personally interested in a close relationship with Guatemala. [end recording]

In addition, Chavez Mena said that mechanisms for Central American security are to be created and that it is necessary to stop the arms buildup.

[Begin Chavez Mena recording] For us, two points are vital and fundamental. The first is to check the arms buildup in Central America, to take a real inventory, and to seek an arms reduction. The second, which is closely related to the first, has to do with the arms traffic. It is fundamental to create control mechanisms to stop the arms traffic. This has already been considered in the Declaration of Objectives. This control mechanism might be CONDECA or a similar organization.

In the Declaration of Objectives, we considered the arms buildup, the arms traffic, the banning of certain types of arms in Central America in the chapter on security, and also the establishment of a political agreement that will lead us to democracy in each of the Central American countries within a security (?framework).

If there is anything essential to achieving peace in Central America, it is the creation of this security framework, to generate deterrent and persuasive actions in the region, but at the same time to create a democratic framework. If there is no democracy in Central America and in each of the area's countries, there will not be peace in Central America. [end recording]

GOVERNMENT LIFTS BAN ON COMMUNIST PROPAGANDA

PA192305 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala 0400 GMT 18 Oct 83

[Text] As we already reported in today's edition of our "Here's the World" newscast at noon, Guatemalan Foreign Minister Fernando Andrade Diaz-Duran has announced the abolition of Decree No 9 of the Law on the Defense of Democratic Institutions [Ley de Defensa de las Instituciones Democraticas].

This afternoon, Manuel de Jesus Giron Tanchez, secretary general of the presidency, explained the contents of the government decree.

[Begin recording] [Giron Tanchez] [Words indistinct] Clauses 1, 2, and 7 and Article 4 of Executive Decree No 9 of the Law on the Defense of Democratic Institutions, and the second clause of Article 15 of the same law. These general clauses contain the following:

Clause No 1 in Article 4 reads: Anyone distributing flyers, pamphlets, posters, records, recordings, or any type of printed or recorded material, regardless of its origin, that calls for the establishment of communist-type institutions in Guatemala will be punished [word indistinct] correctional [word indistinct].

Clause No 2 reads as follows: Anyone who disseminates communist propaganda via the broadcast media.

Clause No 7 declares: Anyone who sells or markets the items mentioned in Clause No 1 of this article, or anyone who places communist or totalitarian propaganda in the broadcast media, (?by means of) commercial or cultural [word indistinct].

[Reporter] Is this a result of the fact that the PGT [Guatemalan Labor Party] communique was published as a means of meeting the demands set for the release of journalist Pedro Julio Garcia?

[Giron Tanchez] One could say that this was a factor in the government's decision to abolish these regulations.

[Reporter] Does this mean that it will no longer be necessary to request government authorization to publish communiques issued by subversive groups?

[Giron Tanchez] In the future, all publications will be regulated exclusively by the Press [word indistinct]; in other words, by Decree No 9 of the National Constituent Assembly, which outlines the law on freedom of thought. [end recording]

HAVANA REPORTS GUERRILLA NEGOTIATION DEMAND

PA191931 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 19 Oct 83

[Text] The Guatemalan guerrillas have admitted kidnapping the sisters of former Guatemalan regime head General Efrain Rios Montt and the current head of the regime, Oscar Humberto Mejia Victores. In a letter addressed to Monsignor Triano Quidice and published in Guatemala City, the Rebel Armed Forces requested the mediation of the Catholic Church to establish negotiations leading to the release of the two women.

This guerrilla organization, which forms part of the Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity, has demanded the publication of a communique in the Spanish, English, and French languages in the most important papers of Mexico, Panama, Colombia, Venezuela, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, the United States, and Europe.

Meanwhile, the Guatemalan Peasant Committee has characterized the Guatemalan regime's signing of the UN statute on refugees as just a maneuver aimed at improving the regime's image. The committee noted that the Guatemalan Army starves to death and massacres the civilian population of the rural areas, provoking the peasants to flee to other countries.

HONDURAS

SUAZO WARNS UNITED STATES AGAINST COMMUNISM

PA192123 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 0053 GMT 19 Oct 83

[Statement by Honduran President Roberto Suazo Cordova during Liberal Party program "Liberal Civic Orientation"; date and place not given -- recorded]

[Excerpts] First of all, I would like to report that the government has expressed its desire to continue participating in the Contadora dialogue. I understand that a meeting will be held in Panama in November. Our foreign minister will outline our strategy concerning that upcoming meeting of the Contadora Group.

The Nicaraguan Government had pledged not to raise the Central American question at the United Nations. Your president has already declared that those who do not believe in democracy act this way. They had promised to discuss these problems with the Contadora countries, which still enjoy the full support of my government.

Central America's problems have their origins in social injustice. A primary cause of these problems has been the dismay and frustration felt by its people as a result of the great abuses committed against them during elections. The people's will has been thwarted and, in the long run, the Marxists have come here with their nice-sounding rhetoric to talk to these people, who feel frustrated becasuse of their social problems or the violation of the people's will at the polls.

Nicaragua was ruled by Somoza for 45 years and El Salvador has also been beset by difficulties.

We know that Honduran democracy is a bad example in the eyes of the nine Nicaraguan commanders. They don't like a regime that fosters freedom, justice, and democracy, as the Honduran Government does.

I ask all men and women throughout the world who believe in democracy to force Nicaragua to honor its commitments. When its current rulers assumed power in July 1979, they pledged to establish a democratic, pluralistic, and participatory regime and to hold elections as soon as possible. This issue has yet to be resolved. Indeed, it may not be closed until Nicaragua has a single party, like communist countries the world over.

Remember my words: If El Salvador falls, Honduras and Guatemala will fall. If Central America falls, Mexico will fall, and eventually the terrorists of international communism will be throwing bombs at the capitol. I congratulate the honorable Democratic and Republican representatives and other members of the U.S. Bipartisan Commission for Central America on their visit to our country. (?I ask them to tell) President Reagan and the various leaders of the Democratic and Republican Parites that President Suazo Cordova has confidence in them and that he hopes they will attend to our requests. You may be certain that the full support we will receive will contribute to political, economic, and military stability in Central America. Should the opposite prove true, you will suffer the consequences of terrorism, sent by Libya's Mr al-Qadhdhafi and all the others who do not belive in democracy and are arming themselves to the teeth, as we say in Honduras, waiting for a chance to [word indistinct] over Washington and New York. Thank you very much, Messrs members of the commission.

FOREIGN SECRETARIAT SENDS PROTEST TO NICARAGUA

PA192052 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1747 GMT 19 Oct 83

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 19 Oct (ACAN-EFE) -- The Honduran Government today sent the Nicaraguan Government a note protesting "an air attack launched by the Sandinist Air Force on the Honduran village of Ilaya," in Gracias a Dios Department (Mosquitia), at 1600 on 11 October.

The Honduran protest note said the village was bombed by Israeli "Arava" planes and U.S. "Push and Pull" [in English] planes, killing three peasants and injuring three more. The peasants who were killed are Adrian Cevallos, Samuel Zelaya, and Cornelio Salazar, while Jose Gutierrez, Orlando Parista, and Millins Lylo were seriously injured.

The Honduran protest note, signed by Foreign Secretary Edgardo Paz Barnica and addressed to Miguel d'Escoto, his Nicaraguan counterpart, stated that "this new violation of our territory and the outright disregard for human life shown in the killing of innocent and unarmed peasants goes against your governemnt's avowed intentions in favor of peace."

The protest note also stated that at 1100 on Saturday, 15 October, six armed Nicaraguan boats were signted in Honduran territorial waters by a Honduran patrol boat. The Honduran Foreign Secretariat added that when that same patrol boat, the "Chamelecon," "investigated the suspicious behavior of a group of supposed fishing boats, some boats fled while others fired against the 'Chamelecon,' which was forced to retaliate in self-defense."

The Honduran Foreign Secretariat did not say if there were any casualties on either side, but reported that the incident took place at the 15th parallel, off the Honduran Cape of Gracias a Dios.

Foreign Secretary Paz Barnica told Miguel D'Escoto that on several occasions fishing boats that appeared to be innocently fishing in Honduran waters "turned out to be armed with artillery, at the service of the Sandinist Army, and engaged in acts of piracy."

The Honduran foreign secretary said that "peace in Central America will only be attained by ending aggression and with a regional dialogue, without conditions, as Honduras has proposed at the international forums."

STALEMATE REPORTED IN EL SALVADOR BORDER TALKS

PA191510 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1145 GMT 19 Oct 83

[Excerpt] According to Roberto Suazo Tome, Honduran ambassador to El Salvador, the border talks between Honduras and El Salvador are stalemated. He said that no progress has been made on the delimitation of the border and that little has been done about demarcating the border at points involving no major obstacles. Suazo Tome made these remarks unexpectedly at a time when the mixed Honduran-Salvadoran border commissions are holding a new round of talks in Tegucigalpa.

UK TO 'POSSIBLY' PROVIDE WEAPONS, ADVISERS

FL191330 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0303 GMT 19 Oct 83

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 18 Oct (NOTIMEX) -- Defense and Public Security Minister Colonel Amilcar Castillo Suazo today reported here that Great Britain may possibly supply Honduras with weapons and military advisers. Colonels Anthony Swannon and Maurice Nutt, British military attaches to Central America, admitted this possibility after Castillo Suazo informed them about the situation in Central America and the problem between Nicaragua and Honduras.

The possibility that Great Britain might possibly provide Honduras with military aid updates the rumors that the British Army in Belize is providing counterinsurgency instruction to Central American government forces. This charge was made during municipal elections in Wales by an opposition candidate and it was immediately and categorically denied by the British Foreign Office.

Moreover, the Honduran defense minister has stated that the reactivation of the Central American Defense Council (CONDECA) will only take place if the region's countries resolve the internal conflicts that they are experiencing. A political solution must be found to the political crisis of each of the member states in order to unify the Defense Ministries (of Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador, and Panama).

While the Honduran officer was making these statements, Colonel Edgar Djalma, the Guatemalan Army's chief of public relations, said that CONDECA will meet in Tegucigalpa on a date yet to be set. But, other military sources cited by the independent agency ENFOPRESNA say the meeting is set for next Thursday.

NICARAGUA

NUNEZ REPORTS REBEL ATTACK ON PANTASMA

PA200251 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0129 GMT 20 Oct 83

[Speech by Commander of the Revolution Carlos Nunez Tellez, president of the Nicaraguan State Council, at the closing ceremony of the Anti-Imperialist Tribunal of Our America, TANA, at the Cesar Augusto Silva Convention Center in Managua -- live]

[Excerpts] We have said that the U.S. Government, through the CIA, has decided to promote greater aggression against Nicaragua by combining attacks on military, economic, and infrastructural targets with its policy of terror against the people.

Today at 0530, between 250 and 300 Somozist criminals, armed by the U.S. Government, attacked the town of Pantasma, 18 km northwest of San Rafael del Norte, Jinotega Department. This attack on defenseless townspeople resulted in the death of 32 persons. Of the 32 murder victims, 11 were members of the (Chacobo) cooperative; 14 were members of a cooperative known as the (Juan Castil Blanco) cooperative, located near Pantasma; 6 companeros were members of our glorious Sandinist People's Militia; and 1 companero was a member of the Sandinist police.

The counterrevolutionaries waited until the militia companeros had gone off to perform their daily tasks, and then fell like bloodthirsty beasts on the town. According to the reports we have received -- and this is characteristic of our people -- despite being without weapons and having to defend themselves with what they had on hand, those heroic people of Pantasma inflicted eight definite casualties on the Somozist counterrevolutionaries, who continue to be annihilated even when they attack in large groups of 200, 300, or 400.

HAVANA CITES CORDOVA RIVAS ON PEOPLE'S STAND

PA181258 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 18 Oct 83

[Excerpt] Rafael Cordova Rivas, member of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, has stressed the firm position of his people in the difficult situation they are facing due to U.S. aggression. He emphasized that the times when U.S. ambassadors dismissed Nicaraguan presidents with just a flick of their fingers are over.

CP LEADER CITED ON U.S. PLANS, KISSINGER

PA161752 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1614 GMT 16 Oct 83

[Text] Managua, 16 Oct (ACAN-EFE) -- Eli Altamirano, secretary general of the Communist Party of Nicaragua [PCDEN] told ACAN-EFE today that the U.S. Government is preparing "plans" to occupy Central America militarily on the pretext that it is combating "Marxist-Leninist totalitarianism." According to the Communist leader, "U.S. troops might be deployed from Guatemala up to the Colombian border for the purpose of annexing Central America."

"Up to now, there has been a large number of U.S. troops in the Panama Canal Zone, and, under the guise of military maneuvers in Honduras, the United States also has military advisers directing the Salvadoran Army in its fight against the rebels," Altamirano explained.

He added that the administration of President Ronald Reagan is supporting "a mercenary army" that is waging an undeclared war against the Nicaraguan democratic revolution. Eli Altamirano affirmed that the high-level commission headed by Henry Kissinger, "the expert imperialist diplomat" has the "admitted objective of establishing guidelines for the governments of the area."

"It is necessary to unite and secure a democratic and patriotic alliance among all the progressive and revolutionary sectors of this country in view of the difficult situation confronting the Nicaraguan revolutionary process," the PCDEN secretary stated.

TWO NICARAGUANS ARRESTED BY DIN IN HONDURAS

PA142214 Managua Radio Noticias in Spanish 1200 GMT 14 Oct 83

[Report by Antonio Luna]

[Text] DIN [Department of National Investigation] agents in Honduras searched the home of Nicaraguan citizen Carlos Ramirez, CONTELCA [Regional Technical Commission of Telecommunications of Central America] official, in La Colina, Tegucigalpa. During the search of Ramierz' home -- he is married to a Honduras citizen identified as Yadira Cuadra -- another Nicaraguan citizen, Byron, and a man identified as Byron's father were arrested. Other Nicaraguans are also known to be living at Ramirez's home, and it is believed they were also arrested. The situation for some Nicaraguans in Honduras is becoming quite difficult because the DIN is looking for excuses to arrest and persecute them.

14 COUNTERREVOLUTIONARIES REPORTED KILLED

PA152025 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 15 Oct 83

[Text] Fourteen Somozist beasts were killed and eight wounded yesterday at dawn when troops of the German Pomares multi-purpose battalion of the Sandinist People's Army [EPS] clashed with counterrevolutionaries in El Sabalar, 21 km north of Matiguas, Matagalpa Department. The Defense Ministry official report reveals that six soldiers of the EPS, the nation's combatants, were wounded.

FIGURES RELEASED ON MURDERED, KIDNAPPED TEACHERS

PA132213 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 13 Oct 83

[Text] Thus far this year, counterrevolutionary bands have murdered 36 teachers and kidnapped 58, according to Ernesto Vallecillo, an official in charge of adult education. He disclosed this information at a news conference today. However, he added, most of those teachers that were kidnapped have managed to escape from counter-revolutionary camps and return to their noble task of educating our peasant brothers. With complete disregard for their own safety, some 18,000 teachers and 3,1000 supervisors are participating in the adult education program.

DAILY ACCUSES LA PRENSA OF 'PSYCHOLOGICAL WAR'

PA171542 Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 10 Oct 83 pp 1, 18

[Text] The most recent "psychological" strategy of LA PRENSA, the CIA's favorite newspaper, is to try "to frighten" Nicaraguans.

As a matter of fact, in its latest issues, LA PRENSA utilizes bold headlines to stress the presence of U.S. warships, invasion threats against our country, the big Northern power, and selected and excerpted statements by some leaders noting the grave danger of war for our country. LA PRENSA is participating in a "psychological war" against Nicaragua that has undoubtedly been planned by the CIA's experts in such activities.

COURT REJECTS PARTY'S REQUEST FOR LEGAL STATUS

PA182018 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 18 Oct 83

[Text] The Supreme Court of Justice yesterday rejected a request for legal status presented by Dr Luis Rivas Leiva, president of the Social Democratic Party in favor of his party, due to failure to use the proper channels. The Supreme Court of Justice did not process the request because, based on Articles 21, 22, 36, and 37 of the Political Parties Law, neither the court nor its president can grant legal status to parties. However, the president of the Supreme Court does have the power to assign positions to the members of the National Political Parties Assembly.

RAMIREZ VISITS TO BULGARIA, ALGERIA REPORTED

Bulletin on Bulgaria Visit

PA131348 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 13 Oct 83

[Bulletin issued by the Government House's Directorate of Dissemination and Press in Managua; no date given]

[Text] With specific achievements and demonstrations of solidarity with the Nicaraguan people, Sergio Ramirez Mercado, member of the government junta and the Sandinist Assembly, has concluded his official visit to Bulgaria.

The results of his visit to this brother country show significant progress in the consolidation of the cooperation program, which includes among other projects the expansion of mining installations, the industrial project in the Sebaco valley, the installation of a plant to process baby food, the building of a hydroelectric project on the Ye-Ye River, and the purchase of buses for public transportation.

Ramirez Mercado met with important political personalities and representatives of the Bulgarian people, including Companeros Grisha Filipov and Milko Balev, secretaries of the Bulgarian Communist Party Central Committee, and Companero Andrey Lukanov, vice president of the Council of Ministers and president of the Bulgarian side of the joint commission. Ramirez Mercado is heading a Nicaraguan Government delegation made up of Industry Minister Emilio Baltodano, Deputy Agrarian Reform Minister Ricardo Coronel, Commander Roberto Calderon, and Deputy Commander Ramon Solis.

Holds Talks in Algeria

PA131750 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 13 Oct 83

[Text] Algiers, Algeria -- The Nicaraguan delegation led by Sergio Ramirez, member of the Junta of National Reconstruction, today began its second day of activities in Algeria by holding sectorial talks.

Political talks were held yesterday led by Ramirez Mercado and Algerian Prime Minister Mohamed Ben Ahmed Abdelghani. The leader of the Nicaraguan mission also explained the Central American situation and his people's struggle against foreign aggression to President Chadli Bendjedid, who received them shortly after their arrival.

The Algerian press today gave front-page coverage to the Nicaraguan delegation's visit and its meeting with the president of the republic.

Holds News Conference

PA141302 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 14 Oct 83

[Text] Nicaragua will never stop trying to negotiate with the United States, even though the United States has so far refused, said Sergio Ramirez, member of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, during a news conference at the end of an official visit to Algeria.

At this moment we are waging a long-term political and military war, which we are going to win, Ramirez said at the news conference. He also referred to the counterrevolutionary attacks that are harming the Nicaraguan economy.

Signs Export Agreement

PA141731 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0353 GMT 14 Oct 83

[Text] Algiers, 13 Oct (EFE) -- Nicaragua has closed two contracts for 1984 with Algeria for $80 million through which this African country will import various Nicaraguan products, including coffee and sugar. Sergio Ramirez, member of the Sandinist Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, is currently visiting Algeria heading an important Nicaraguan delegation. He made a statement for EFE in which he said that"ever since imperialism closed its markets to our traditional products, Algeria has become one of Nicaragua's most important markets."

The sale of Nicaraguan products to Algeria in 1984 will increase significantly, up to $80 million. As a complement, Nicaragua is studying the possibility of importing Algerian products.

"We discussed a possible purchase of hydrocarbons from Algeria, but only as a future possibility, since our oil supplies are currently guaranteed thanks to our agreement with Mexico and Venezuela," Ramierez added.

In relation to alleged pressure on Mexico, Ramirez said his country "has never felt it is under a boycott, although there has been much speculation on the subject."

Sergio Ramirez arrived in this city from Yugoslavia, where he discussed the economic agreement between Nicaragua and that country. He will be returning to Nicaragua next Saturday.

CABEZAS IN FRG FOR PEACE RALLIES, VISITS HOLLAND

PA181950 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 18 Oct 83

[Text] Sandinist Commander Omar Cabezas will participate in the main event to be staged by the FRG's peace movement, which will take place in Bonn on October 22. The purpose of the activities is to prevent NATO's planned nuclear rearmament.

During his stay in the FRG, Cabezas has received demonstrations of solidarity from many groups and social sectors.

Unions in the city of Hesse have decided to send skilled workers, craftsmen, and professionals to Nicaragua to help in the country's development. Commander Omar Cabezas left yesterday for Amsterdam, Holland, to take part in an international solidarity congress and to participate in a program held by the Dutch-Nicaraguan Association. From there he will return to Bonn to take part in the peace rallies.

DEPUTY LABOR MINISTER LEAVES FOR BULGARIA

PA171956 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 17 Oct 83

[Text] Deputy Labor Minister Benedicto Meneses left for Bulgaria today to sign cooperation agreements with the Bulgarian Labor Ministry. Menesee will meet with Bulgarian officials who have expessed a desire to strengthen friendship and ties of cooperation with our revolution. Meneses was accompanied by (Rene Rivera) director of employment and salaries, and (Yavet Cortes), departmental labor inspector.

HUNGARIAN DELEGATION ARRIVES FOR 2-WEEK VISIT

PA190428 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 19 Oct 83

[Text] A delegation of the Hungarian Patriotic People's Front arrived in Managua tonight for a 2-week visit to this country, in order to acquire a greater knowledge of the revolutionary process. The Hungarian delegation was invited by the Patriotic Front of the Revolution FPR, which has planned a full agenda, including interviews with the political parties and with union, religious, and social organizations. The members of the Hungarian Patriotic People's Front who arrived today belong to the front's directorate of international relations.

SAO TOME-PRINCIPE FOREIGN MINISTER ON VISIT

PA182025 Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 18 Oct 83

[Excerpt] The Sao Tome and Principe foreign minister is in Nicaragua on a brief official visit. Sao Tome and Principe are two small islands off the southern African coast.

Upon her arrival, the foreign minister was welcomed by Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Father Miguel D'Escoto and Deputy Foreign Minister Nora Astorga. D'Escoto said: It is a pleasure to welcome this sister, who identifies with our struggle and who represents the people of Sao Tome and Principe, which is one of the pillars of the Nonaligned Movement.

Meeting With Ortega

PA191531 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 19 Oct 83

[Text] Commander Daniel Ortega Saavedra, coordinator of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction met last night with Sao Tome and Principe Foreign Minister Maria de Amorim and discussed matters of interest to our two peoples. The meeting was held at the Cesar Augusto Silva Convention Center in Managua. The companera foreign minister from Sao Tome and Principe told newsmen that her visit to Nicaragua is in response to an invitation extended by our revolutionary government.

Regarding the U.S. Government's plans of aggression against the Nicaraguan people, Foreign Minister de Amorim said that in the case of a direct aggression against Nicaragua, the Sao Tome and Principe people would be on the side of the Sandinist people and government.

MEDICAL SUPPLY PROBLEMS CITED; GDR PACT SIGNED

PA131755 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 13 Oct 83

[Text] The criminal CIA maneuvers against Nicaragua have made certain medicine suppliers from abroad fearful of either coming over or sending these important products for the Nicaraguan people's health. Health Minister Companera Lea Guido made this statement yesterday after signing the protocal of a cooperation agreement with the GDR Government. According to the minister, the suppliers do not want to come here because the products they ship here may be lost as a result of criminal CIA actions against our people.

The GDR ambassador in Managua, who signed the protocol in behalf of his government, charged that some of the medicines donated by his country were lost when the counterrevolutionaries and the CIA destroyed the fuel tanks in the port of Corinto. However, he expalined, the solidarity of the German people and government will not stop. Evidence of this is the signing of the protocol, which among other things calls for sending German technicians, who will draft an action program for the health sector.

FAGOTH CHARGES ARDE-FDN FEUD PREVENTS UNITY

PA182237 San Pedro Sula TIEMPO in Spanish 13 Oct 83 p 21

[Text] La Ceiba -- Steadman Fagoth Muller, the leader of the MISURA group, said here yesterday that "the egotism of Alfonso Robelo and Eden Pastora prevents the Nicaraguan democratic fronts from forming a single bloc to overthrow the Sandinist regime."

Fagoth made this statement during a meeting attended by members of the local press and representatives from the banking and business community. The meeting was held at noon yesterday in the Hotel Paris under tight security. A film on the current situation in Nicaragua was shown before the opening of the conference, which had been called by the Nicaraguan Commission for Democratic Integration (CIDEN).

Fagoth said: "The attitude shown by the leaders of ARDE [Democratic Revolutionary Alliance], the FDN [Nicaraguan Democratic Force], and the FRDN [not further identified] causes me great pain, because they are living it up in luxury hotels while Nicaraguan blood is being shed."

The MISURA leader expressed his full and categorical support for the creation of a national unity movement. Fagoth also clearly stated that he is fighting neither for ARDE nor the FDN, because "the two groups are hungry for power and vying for leadership."

Fagoth revealed that ARDE, the FRDN, the FDN, and the Miskito Indians have held a number of meetings, the most recent being in Venezuela. He added, however, that "the ARDE-FDN discord always crops up. I told them -- right to their face -- to resolve their feud." Fagoth also said that "this is what they fear will become public knowledge that they have not been able to join forces, reach a consensus, or even reach some agreement on common viewpoints." He added: "They fear the creation of joint high command."

Fagoth implied that the FDN does not want to be subjected to ARDE and viceversa. Both of them want to lead. Regarding this, he said: "We will not tip the balance in favor of either group."

When asked if the Honduran Armed Forces are cooperating with these anti-Sandinist organizations, Fagoth replied: "It is the obligations of all democratic institutions to oppose the Sandinist regime. That being said, don't interpret this as a confirmation of direct Honduran participation in our movement."

Fagoth took advantage of the occasion to urge all those present at the meeting to support his struggle as well as to report the deplorable living conditions of the Miskito Indians.

In addition, the Reverend Tillen Mollins, a representative of the Miskito's Council of Elders and a member of CIDEN, said that 3,000 Miskito Indians are being held in Nicaraguan prisons and that there are seven concentration camps in that country containing a total of 30,000 people.

The CIDEN board of directors includes: Javier Garcia, coordinator, Edwin Herrera, secretary, Elmer Garcia and Mario Clayton, members, and Honduran Guillermo Matute, adviser.

According to reports, CIDEN's major objective is to solve some of the problems faced by the Miskito Indians, particularly their lack of clothing, food, medical supplies, and access to treatment.

ARDE FORCES ATTACK EPS AT EL TORO BASE

PA141712 (Clandestine) Voice of Sandino in Spanish to Nicaragua 0000 GMT 15 Oct 83

[War Bulletin No. 88 issued by the Miskito, Sumu, Rama Sandinist Unity, MISURASATA; Nicaraguan Democratic Movement, MDN; Sandino Revolutionary Front, FRS; Christian Democratic Solidarity Front, DSDC; "in the Nicaraguan mountains" on 14 October 1983]

[Text] The General Command of the Armed Forces of the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance, ARDE, reports to the people of Nicaragua and the democratic peoples of the world:

1. At 0600 on 12 October 1983, two squads of the Domingo Antonio Gutierrez Giron column led by Companero "Zurdo" harassed the El Toro Base in the region of Sabal. The harassment involved M-79 grenade launchers and rifles and lasted an hour. There is no information regarding enemy casualties.

2. On that same date and at the same time, an ARDE squad ambushed an outboard motorboat in the Sabalos region. Three members of the pro-Soviet army of interference, the Sandinist People's Army, were travelling in the boat. Two of them were killed and the third escaped.

3. At 0900 on 12 October, another ARDE squad led by Companero (?Arguilo) ambushed a patrol of the totalitarian Managua regime on the road to El Toro base. In 30 minutes of combat, the enemy suffered five dead and several wounded. Our forces for the defense of our national sovereignty suffered no casualties in these clashes.

Without totalitarism, or a return to the past!

[Signed] General Command of the ARDE Armed Forces

U.S. CHARGED WITH PRESSURING UN DELEGATIONS

FL191642 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 19 Oct 83

[Text] The Cuban delegation to the United Nations has made public a document which reveals U.S. maneuvers aimed at controlling and supervising the statements that several representatives make before the 38th UNGA meeting.

The Cuban delegate to the sixth UN Special Commission, Juana Silvera, showed a document which demonstrates the pressures, blackmail, coercion, and intimidation being used by the United States against other sovereign states. The document categorically states that a country depending on U.S. protection and support cannot hesitate in supporting the U.S. position at the United Nations.

The Cuban delegate announced that the document was available to the delegations participating in the forum. She questioned the morality of such actions, stressing that they violate the UN Charter.

'OUR AMERICA' PRAISES FMLN'S ACHIEVEMENTS

PA180246 Havana International Service in Spanish 2310 GMT 17 Oct 83

["Our America" commentary]

[Text] The political and military advance of the Salvadoran guerrillas is overwhelming. The Salvadoran FMLN's victory in the revolutionary struggle in that small Central American country is unquestionable.

In the most recent offensive, which they call "Independence, Liberty, and Democracy for El Salvador," and which began in the first days of September, rebel forces have inflicted some 1,000 dead and wounded on troops of the genocidal Salvadoran military regime. This guerrilla military campaign is aimed at exhausting the Army's forces. It has included ambushes, harassments, clashes, annihilation actions, and the occupation of towns.

Since the offensive began, the rebels have seized some 300 weapons and a large amount of ammunition of various types in approximately 75 clashes with regular government troops, and also in clashes with units that are considered elite, which have received counter-insurgency training from U.S. officers. The "Independence, Liberty and Democracy" campaign is continuing its successful advance in central and eastern El Salvador.

Simultaneously, the FMLN has installed its first subregional government in the northern department of Chalatenango, of which 90 percent has been liberated by the rebels. This new government experience in liberated Salvadoran territory is based on people's power. Its functions include directing production and the popular economy, social assistance, a literacy campaign, and legal matters.

These facts show that only 3 years after its creation, the FMLN has acquired not only strong combativeness but also a solid organization with firm and profound popular support.

Meanwhile, the regime has increased its attacks on the population, and its indiscriminate aerial shelling of rural areas and densely populated cities, such as the recent massacre in Tenancingo. They have also increased other crimes such as kidnappings and disappearances, for which victims are carefully selected from among leaders of peasant, labor, and professional organizations. The regime knows it is being defeated by the guerrillas. Salvadoran military authorities have admitted that during the past year rebels have inflicted 6,000 casualties on their forces -- which accounts for 25 percent of their regular forces -- and that they have lost more than 3,000 weapons of various kinds, which are now in the hands of the guerrillas.

At present, the FMLN's radius of action has expanded to cover 80 percent of El Salvador, and one fourth of this extensive area has been completely liberated by the revolutionaries. However, the Salvadoran regime and the U.S. Government -- the latter directly involved due to its support for the Salvadoran Government -- insist on finding a military solution to El Salvador's internal conflict.

The FMLN-FDR diplomatic commission has reiterated its willingness to continue talks aimed at finding a political solution to the conflict. However, the Salvadoran Government's Peace Commission and U.S. special envoy Richard Stone continue evading the resumption of the dialogue. This shows that when it initially agreed to sit down at the negotiating table, the Salvadoran regime only wanted to put on a show for public opinion. Once again events have shown that U.S. imperialism and its puppets are the ones that are against a political solution to the Central American conflict. Nonetheless, events also show that they will never be able to accomplish a military victory.

STATION CALLS FOR SOLIDARITY WITH NICARAGUA

PA181400 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 18 Oct 83

["Special Report" by Nestor Nunez]

[Excerpts] Four years after the victorious Sandinist people's revolution, the Nicaraguan people have lived through their first 1,540 days of genuine struggle. But the enemy has made every possible effort to turn this new light, achieved at the cost of 50,000 martyrs, into darkness.

The harassment of the Nicaraguan revolution, however, has not had the results that the enemy wanted. Hundreds of counterrevolutionaries have died under the people's fire. The Sandinist fighters have kept the country's territory in one piece, though they have shed very valuable blood in doing so. The giant conspiracy perpetrated by the U.S. intelligence services, the Reagan government, and the Central American fascist regimes continues. Thus, Nicaragua has been left with no alternative but to prepare for defense, which is what any profound and popular revolution would do.

Lenin Cerna, director of the Nicaraguan State Security Office, addressed Latin American intellectuals recently and was categorical in his assessment of the aggression from which his people are suffering:

[Begin Lenin Cerna recording] We want to tell you that the operation against Nicaragua following the 19 July revolutionary victory began on various fronts, involving terrorism, espionage, counterrevolutionary bands, and counterrevolutionary units. The entire world has talked about our revolution, the attacks, and the CIA. I believe that the CIA has never operated in a more overt fashion than it is doing now. What else can we say? Nicaragua's truth has been spoken. [end recording]

The Sandinist people's revolution is the hope for all peoples of the continent, and it is the duty of all of the world's honest people to prevent its disappearance because of the aggressive actions of imperialism. Meanwhile, the Nicaraguan people have emphasized that they will not return to the infamous yoke of imperialism even if this means the heroic sacrifice of dying. There must be international solidarity to support this firm decision.

RODRIGUEZ MEETS WITH CEMA DELEGATION CHIEFS

FL151210 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 15 Oct 83

[Text] Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, vice president of the Councils of State and Ministers and Cuban representative to CEMA, accompanied by Pedro Miret, vice president of the Council of Ministers, and Jaime Crombet, member of the party Secretariat, received the cheifs of the delegation who had attended the meeting of CEMA's Standing Commission in the field of Ferrous Metallurgy which concluded yesterday. During the meeting, Rodriguez briefed the distinguished guests on the progress of Cuba's social and economic development. He also stressed the importance of the ferrous metallurgy industry in strengthening our country's economic development.

On behalf of the delegates, the Soviet minister of ferrous metallurgy reported on the work accomplished by the Standing Commission during this meeting in Cuba and shared his views on the significant and dynamic development of metallurgy in socialist countries.

CEMA Shipping Conference Closes

FL151400 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 15 Oct 83

[Text] The conference of shipping organizations from CEMA member countries concluded yesterday in this capital. The conference dealt with subjects related to the exchange of technology, (?prevailing) rates, and the general status of efforts in this sector. This meeting heard reports on the dynamics of trade between socialist countries.

CEMA Aircraft Repairs Meeting Closes

FL151500 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 15 Oct 83

[Text] The eighth meeting of the representatives of the CEMA multilateral agreement on specialization for the repair of aircraft equipment, engines, and generators closed with the signing of a protocol in the capital. The protocol introduced modifications regarding key repairs and technology and pointed to areas where efficiency and quality of repairs could be improved.

SOVIET MINISTER OF METALLURGY DECORATED

FL180130 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 18 Oct 83

[Text] The Florentina Alejo Medal has been conferred on Ivan Pavlovich Kazanets, Soviet minister of ferrous metallurgy, for his extraordinary contribution to our country's metallurgic development.

The medal was presented at a ceremony held at Cubanacan Protocol Hall. The ceremony was attended by Pedro Miret, member of the party Politburo, and Konstantin Katushev, Soviet ambassador to Cuba and member of the CPSU Central Committee.

Marcos Lage, minister of the steelworking industry, cited the political career of the Soviet minister and his willingness to cooperate in such an important segment of our economy. He said that since 1964, when he was appointed minister of ferrous metallurgy, Pavlovich Kazanets had become a significant factor in the expansion of the Antillana Steel Enterprise.

Pavlovich expressed his gratitute for the honor bestowed on him by the Ministry of Basic Industry and the Metallurgy Workers Trade Union and stressed that the development of the metallurgic industry in socialist countries is both dynamic and growing rapidly. In that context he noted that CEMA-member countries produce 209 million tons of steel per year, with the Soviet Union producing 152 million tons of that total. He pointed out that Cuba should move toward increasing the production of steel and reiterated that Cuba can always depend on the technical and scientific advancements of the USSR in general and on the Soviet metallurgy workers in particular.

CABRISAS ARRIVES IN CHINA TO PROMOTE TRADE

FL182116 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1915 GMT 18 Oct 83

[Text] Cuban Foreign Trade Minister Ricardo Cabrisas Ruiz today arrived in Beijing for an official 5-day visit. The purpose of the trip is to promote bilateral trade. Tomorrow the delegation is scheduled to hold talks with Chen Muhua, member of the State Council and minister of foreign economic relations and trade, who will host an official banquet tomorrow night to welcome her Cuban colleague.

Cuban diplomatic sources indicated that during his stay in Beijing, Cabrisas Ruiz will hold talks with foreign trade officials to promote the development of commercial links between the two nations.

The sources said that since 1960, China and Cuba have maintained (?good) trade relations, reaching a total value of $379 million.

Denounces U.S. Imperialism

FL192230 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1910 GMT 19 Oct 83

[Text] In China, Ricardo Cabrisas, Cuban minister of foreign trade, has energetically denounced the growing aggressiveness of Yankee imperialism and emphasized the need to strengthen economic and trade links between the two socialist countries. He also condemned the fact that Yankee imperialism is currently increasing its aggressiveness and increasingly using political blackmail and economic blockades in international trade -- pressures from which China is suffering directly.

It is important to strenghten the economic and trade links between China and Cuba, said Cabrisas at the banquet given in his honor by Chen Muhua, China's minister of foreign economic relations and trade. The Cuban minister of foreign trade is in Beijing heading a delegation from his ministry.

Cabrisas said that within the context of international relations, the socialist countries have an important role in the struggle for world peace and the security of the people, a role that our country has fulfilled.

He said that at all times, Cuba has defended in international forums the right of all developing peoples to improve their economies. Cabrisas said that we have repeatedly reported that the persistent drop in raw materials prices along with the increase in the prices of manufactured products has been disastrous for the economies of the exporting countries of the so-called Third World.

He said that Cuba's experience would not have been possible had it not been for the socialist camp.

BATISTA SANTANA LEADS DELEGATION TO PDRY

FL141256 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 14 Oct 83

[Text] A Cuban Communist Party delegation led by Sixto Batista Santana, alternate member of the Politburo, has arrived in Aden to attend the festivities marking the 20th anniversary of the revolution in the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen [PDRY]. The Cuban delegation was welcomed by 'Abd al-Qadir, member of the Politburo of the Yemeni Socialist Party Politburo and secretary of foreign relations, and Defense Minister Salih Muslih Qasim. Several ceremonies have been scheduled for the festivities of 14 October, a date considered to mark one of the most significant milestones in the struggle for independence of the Yemeni people.

Meets PDRY Chairman

FL161622 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1228 GMT 16 Oct 83

[Text] Aden -- Yemeni Chairman 'Ali Nasir Muhammad al-Hasani has received Division General Sixto Batista, alternate member of our party Politburo. Div Gen Batista participated in the festivities marking the 20th anniversary of the Yemeni revolution. Later, the Cuban leader departed for Ethiopia.

PDRY Anniversary Commemorated

FL181303 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 18 Oct 83

[Text] The 25th anniversary of the beginning of the armed struggle in the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen [PDRY] was commemorated in this capital with a ceremony chaired by Politburo members Jose Ramon Machado Ventura and Osmani Cienfuegos.

During a speech at the ceremony, PDRY Ambassador to Cuba 'Umar Husayn al-Hurubi recounted the struggle for independence and freedom of that Arab nation, noting the extraordinary role played by the Yemeni Socialist Party in the materialization of the historic necessity of the vanguard role of the working class and the support received from the Soviet Union and socialist countries in building the new society.

In his closing remarks, Jose Ramon Machado Ventura referred to the advance experienced in recent years in the PDRY, citing its position on the side of progressive countries, the building of a socialist society, generalized education, making health services available to all people, and the eradication of latifundium.

PDRY Press Cites Batista

FL182030 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 18 Oct 83

[Text] Yemen -- The official Yemen news agency has emphasized the statements made by the alternate member of the Politburo of the Communist Party of Cuba, Sixto Batista Santana, who presided over his country's delegation at the commemoration of the 25th anniversary of the 14 October Revolution.

The Cuban leader expressed to the agency his satisfaction at having joined the people of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen during the celebration of such an historical event.

Sixto Batista stressed the firm relations that exist between South Yemen and Cuba in diverse fields and reiterated his conviction that they will be strengthened in the future.

ANPP DELEGATION TO VISIT SOUTHEAST ASIA

FL141636 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1513 GMT 14 Oct 83

[Text] Beginning next Tuesday, a Cuban delegation representing the National Assembly of the People's Government [ANPP] of Cuba headed by its president, Flavio Bravo Pardo, will visit Vietnam, Kampuchea, and Laos, it has been announced in Hanoi. The Vietnamese legislative organization reported that the visit of the Cuban delegation will include meetings with directors of the legislative body, and visits to historical sites, economic development areas, and institutions in which Cuban technicians and specialists are employed. In Hanoi and Vietnamese provinces, the representatives of the People's Government of Cuba will be able to confirm the advances in production achieved in recent years in construction work. The Cuban visitors will later visit Kampuchea and Laos, to which Cuba also provides assistance in various areas and maintains friendly relations.

Flavio Bravo Meets SRV Leader

FL190232 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 19 Oct 83

[Text] News dispatches received at the close of this broadcast indicate that Nguyen Huu Tho, president of the National Assembly and vice president of the Council of State of Vietnam, today met with Flavio Bravo Pardo, president of the National Assembly of the People's Government of Cuba.

Huu Tho praised the firm revolutionary tradition of the Cuban people and saluted the great achievements they have made in defense and in national construction.

Assemblies Open Talks in Hanoi

FL192307 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2104 GMT 19 Oct 83

[Text] Delegations from the national assemblies of Vietnam and Cuba today opened official talks in Hanoi. The talks are being headed by Nguyen Huu Tho, chairman of the Vietnamese National Assembly, and Flavio Bravo Pardo, president of Cuba's National Assembly of the People's Government [ANPP].

The newspaper NHAN DAN, official organ of the Vietnamese Communist Party, carried an editorial greeting our ANPP delegation and describing the Cuban people as rebel brothers from the western Hemisphere. The Vietnamese newspaper noted that any time anyone in Vietnam talks about the Cuban people, the children of Ho Chi Minh feel proud because Cuba is profoundly admired and loved. NHAN DAN also stressed the determination of the Cuban revolution in confronting U.S. imperialism.

BARBADOS

CABINET HOLDS EMERGENCY SESSION ON GRENADA

FL191940 Bridgetown CANA in English 1919 GMT 19 Oct 83

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, Oct 19, CANA -- The Barbados Cabinet went into an emergency session today to discuss dramatic developments in Grenada, where leftist Prime Minister Maurice Bishop was re-arrested this afternoon after being freed from house arrest by hundreds of supporters. "The meeting has already started," said Prime Minister Tom Adams' press aide, Glyne Murray, who confirmed that developments in Grenada were the focus of the talks, at Government's headquarters.

Grenada's political problems came into the open last week after Prime Minister Bishop was placed under house arrect, following claims by top officials in his New Jewel Movement (NJM) that he had refused to implement a power-sharing scheme, and also that he started a rumour to the effect that his former deputy, Bernard Coard, was plotting to assassinate him.

Thousands of Bishop's supporters stormed his home today, freeing him, but he was quickly re-arrested amidst reports of shooting near Fort Rupert, the Army Headquarters in which some civilians were said to have been injured.

The NJM is gripped in a power struggle that pits Bishop, a moderate, against hardline Marxist Coard. Barbados has had lukewarm relations with Grenada, with Prime Minister Adams accusing Bishop of turning his back on a promise he gave Caribbean Community (Caricom) leaders that he would have held early general elections to give his government, which seized power in a 1979 coup, the stamp of legality.

Issues Government Statement

FL192235 Bridgetown CANA in English 2210 GMT 19 Oct 83

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, Oct 19, CANA -- The Barbados Government tonight expressed concern about the political crisis in Grenada and called on those in power to release all political detainees, including Prime Minister Maurice Bishop.

After an emergency cabinet meeting called this afternoon, the following statement was issued:

"The Government of Barbados views with deep concern the recent tragic events in Grenada, a close neighbour and fellow Caricom (Carribean Community) member.

"We consider that every possible step should be taken to avoid further disorder which may have incalculable consequences for the people of Grenada and the Caribbean.

"The Barbados Government urges those in control immediately to release all political detainees on the island, including Mr Maurice Bishop, and to take steps to avoid further bloodshed.

"It looks forward to a peaceful solution of all existing difficulties and an early return to constitutional rule.

"The Government of Barbados avails itself of the opportunity to offer all assistance to the people of Grenada at this time of disorder and suffering." (End of text)

Adams: New Leaders 'Murderers'

FL200613 Bridgetown CANA in English 0604 GMT 20 Oct 83

[Excerpts] Bridgetown, Barbados, Oct 20, CANA -- Barbados Prime Minister Tom Adams has discribed Grenada's new rulers as "disgusting murderers" and "barbarians" and said he would not be sitting down with them in Caribbean Common Market (Caricom) meetings. Adams' outrage came in an interview with a journalist of Barbados' state-owned Caribbean Broadcasting Corporation (CBC) radio after it was learned that Bishop had been slain in a clash between Bishop's supporters and troops in the Grenada capital, St Georges, Wednesday afternoon.

Grenada is a member of Caricom and a sub-regional group called the Organisation of East Caribbean States (OECS). Prime Minister John Compton of St Lucia has already expressed fears about whether Grenada can be accommodated in the regional groupings in the wake of the developments in St Georges. (Following is full text of Adams interview)

"I am absolutely horrified at these brutal and vicious murders, the most vicious act to disfigure the West Indies since the days of slavery. I had my differences with Maurice Bishop, but they were political differences fought out in the clean arena of politics, and I might say that in these past months, I found myself more often agreeing with Maurice Bishop than disagreeing. It would be very difficult indeed to see what future the regime that is stained by this record of murder can have in an association of peaceful and peace loving Caricom states."

Q: Mr Adams, what do you think are the implications for the Caricom Community of today's events?

Adams: Well, I for one would not be able to sit down at any table with these disgusting murderers and I can safely say that that will go for the Government of Barbados. The whole status of Caricom as an association of democratic countries would have to be reviewed now that this has happened. I may mention that this is something which the Government of Barbados has been fearing over the whole of the last week.

We have had information that those presently in charge of Grenada have for some weeks been proposing to murder their political opponents starting with the detainees. We have been worried that Mr Bishop's life was in grave danger once he was in the hands of his enemies. Now the worst has been realised, and the most vicious type of political murder has come into what was once a happy chain of islands' it must have absolutely major implications for continued association with Grenada under this regime.

Q: In terms of your concern about the type of government that would be prevailing in Grenada following today's events, would you be expressing concern for example to the Caricom secretary general?

Adams: I think it might go a little further than that. The Cabinet postponed until tomorrow its consideration of what would be done in case Mr Bishop was murdered and within a quarter of an hour of that postponement, I received fairly firm news from Grenada that Mr Bishop was dead. That was since perhaps quarter past six this afternoon. I have been thinking about the matter, and I think it would go beyond merely getting in touch with Caricom's secretary general. I am speaking only on relationships with Caricom. I do not think it will be possible to accommodate so wide a range of governments within the Caribbean. It goes far beyond ideological pluralism. This is the difference between barbarians and human beings."

GRENADA

REPORTAGE ON BISHOP-COARD POWER STRUGGLE

Journalist Describes Situation

PA191417 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0808 GMT 19 Oct 83

[Report by Yussuff Haniff]

[Text] Bridgetown, 19 Oct (EFE) -- Although they have not placed all their cards on the table, the contenders in the struggle for power within the leftwing factions of the socialist Govenment of Grenada have very different, albeit equally effective, arms.

Deputy Prime Minister Bernard Coard, who belongs to the extreme left, controls the state radio station Radio Free Grenada, the only one on the island, as well as key positions within the government.

Prime Minister Maurice Bishop, who is under house arrest, has the support of the people and some loyal members in the cabinet. Bishop apparently lost some popular support after last Monday's strike failed because stores opened for business as usual and offices and public services were also operating.

But the passive attitude of the people of the capital, St Georges, is compensated for by the militant stance of the people in the interior of the island. Three demonstrations were held in Grenada in which the demonstrators carried signs bearing slogans demanding that Bishop resume power; Radio Free Grenada only reported one of the demonstrations, without indicating who it supported.

The four ministers who resigned their posts to support Bishop asked the people not to mobilize until the prime minister resumes power.

Grenada, although it has a socialist government which is the product of the overthrow of rightwinger Eric Gairy in 1979, is a conservative country in which the majority of the people are Catholic. Paradoxically, they support Bishop and his socialist government because they view him as a liberator from the corrupt administration and oppression of Gairy, who came to be known as the "Idi Amin of the Caribbean."

Coard has manipulated radio information received abroad on the situation in the island, prohibiting the entrance of foreign newsmen into the country.

When the four ministers -- Foreign Minister Unison Whiteman, Tourism Minister Lynden Ramdhanny, Agriculture Minister George Loison, and Interior Minister Norris Bain -- resigned, they made contacts abroad to denounce Bishop's arrest, as different reports had indicated, and Coard's control of the country.

Another factor against the deputy prime minister is that his aspirations for power are strangling the country's economy by scaring away tourists, an important source of revenue. The luxury liner "Carla C" postponed its visit to St Georges until the situation returns to normal, and tourists have stopped arriving.

Coard is tightening the belts of the Grenadians now that their economy is improving, and this is not aiding him in his desire to reach power.

The Army has not come out officially in favor of either side, although it harshly criticized Bishop and asked him to share power with Coard. If the prime minister can count only on the Army, an armed struggle in the streets will be inevitable.

Businesses Closed, Demonstrations

FL191430 Bridgetown CANA in English 1412 GMT 19 Oct 83

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, Oct 19 (CANA) -- Telephone callers from Grenada this morning said business places were closed and school children were demonstrating in the streets of the island's capital, as a power struggle between moderate and radical factions of the ruling New Jewel Movement (NJM) took a new turn.

One woman from the St Georges area said she saw former Foreign Minister Unison Whiteman -- he resigned yesterday -- among the chanting demonstrators, who were demanding reinstatement of Prime Minister Maurice Bishop, under house arrest here since last Thursday. Another caller said it appeared school children from the rural areas had come into the city to join the marchers who had earlier assembled in the market square in the centre of the city.

Whiteman said yesterday, shortly after announcing his resignation, that ex-Deputy Prime Minister and hardline Marxist Bernard Coard was now running the country from his home.

Bishop, the 39-year-old leftist lawyer who co-founded the NJM 10 years ago and led the Commonwealth Caribbean's first coup in 1979, has not been seen in public since last Wednesday.

One telex caller reported that a large crowd was marching towards the Prime Minister's house, where his mother said last weekend he was being held under guard.

The United States Embassy in Barbados said this morning it was sending Political Counsellor Kenneth Kurzie to Grenada today to look after the welfare of the estimated 1,000 American citizens resident there plus the 500-odd U.S. students at the medical school there. An embassy spokesman said Grenadians in the United States had been bombarding the State Department with enquiries about the safety and welfare of relatives and families in Grenada.

Bishop Release Confirmed

FL191615 Bridgetown CANA in English 1606 GMT 19 Oct 83

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, Oct 19 (CANA) -- Leftist Grenada Prime Minister Maurice Bishop, under house arrest for nearly a week amid a power struggle in his ruling New Jewel Movement (NJM), was freed by a large crowd of suppoerters who stormed his home today, according to an anonymous telex message received at CANA headquarters here from Grenada.

The telex said a crowd of about 3,000 had marched to the Prime Minister's residence and he was now in the city surrounded by supporters.

The Grenada authorities have pulled the plug on the entire telephone system, making impossible to call into or out of the country.

A CANA correspondent in a subsequent despatch said that Bishop was freed at 10:35 a.m. today with the Army putting up only token resistance.

Bishop and a growing crowd were moving towards the market square in the centre of the capital, St Georges, where it is expected he will address them. In the middle of a jumping, pressing crowd, CANA asked Bishop for a statement. Say anything, our reporter yelled at him. His reply: "The masses."

The demonstrators forced restoration of the telephone system and in a subsequent call to CANA from St Georges, the Prime Minister's Press Secretary Don Rojas confirmed that Bishop was freed.

He said a massive crowd burst through the gates of the Prime Minister's residence, where soldiers were on guard. "The soldiers fired warning shots in the air to try to disperse the crowd, but the demonstrators went into the house and physically lifted him and Jacqueline Creft, the minister of education, and brought them out to the people," Rojas told CANA.

Rojas said that ailing ex-minister of Industrialisation and Fisheries Kendrick Radix, arrested Saturday for leading a pro-Bishop demonstration in St Georges, was freed from detention, along with Trade Union Leader Fitzroy Bain, held last week.

A tired-looking Bishop was this afternoon on his way to the state-controlled Radio Free Grenada, where he is expected to address the nation.

Rojas said the Bishop's hardline Marxist deputy, the other central figure in the NJM leadership struggle, was at his home, which was being guarded by soldiers.

Coard, Wife Arrested

PA191735 Madrid EFE in Spa ish 1717 GMT 19 Oct 83

[Text] Bridgetown, 19 Oct (EFE) -- Former Deputy Prime Minister Bernard Coard and his wife have been arrested by Grenadian Army troops loyal to Prime Minister Maurice Bishop, an official communique received in Barbados reports. Teletype and telephone communications have been reestablished, and the airport is operating normally. Maurice Bishop, who was liberated this morning from house arrest by a large number of followers, will address the country from the central plaza of this capital.

Shooting at Army Headquarters

FL191730 Bridgetown CANA in English 1722 GMT 19 Oct 83

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, Oct 19, CANA -- Gunshots were heard in the vicinity of Grenada's Army headquarters Fort Rupert, where Prime Minister Maurice Bishop had taken refuge after being freed from house arrest by a large crowd of supporters, Bishop's Press Secretary Don Rojas said in a brief telephone call to CANA's Bridgetown headquarters this afternoon. "From where I am standing I could see smoke and fire and the people are scattering," a frenzied Rojas told CANA.

Rojas said Bishop was still in the midst of the huge crowd when truckloads of troops arrived and opened fire. "We don't quite know what's going on, but we know the Prime Minister was among the people," Rojas said.

Rojas had earlier confirmed that a massive crowd of supporters had marched on the Prime Minister's residence where he had been held under house arrest for a week and physically taken him out into the streets. It was the most dramatic development in a near-week-old political crisis and has split Grenada's ruling leftwing New Jewel Movement into two -- one faction headed by the moderate Bishop and the other by his hardline Marxist ex-Deputy Bernard Coard.

Another eyewitness said in a call to CANA that he could see an armoured car in the vicinity of the fort. There were reports of people being killed in the gunfire. A motor car was burning and the fire service had just arrived, he said. Soldiers were patrolling outside the fort, the caller said.

Radio Free Grenada Off Air

FL191855 Bridgetown CANA in English 1850 GMT 19 Oct 83

[Text] St Georges, Grenada, Oct 19, CANA -- The government radio station, virtually the only source of official information on the crisis since it started, has been inexplicably off the air for hours now. Rojas, in an earlier statement on behalf of Prime Minister Bishop, had urged the army to surrender their arms "and not to turn their guns on the people."

The Grenada airport has been closed for most of the day. One flight by the Eastern Caribbean inter-island airline, LIAT, from Barbados to Pearls Airport, was unable to land and returned there. Two other flights were cancelled, the airline said.

Bishop Reported Wounded

PA191947 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1920 GMT 19 Oct 83

[Report by Yussuff Haniff]

[Text] Bridgetown, 19 Oct (EFE) -- Radio reports monitored here indicated today that Grenadian Prime Minister Maurice Bishop may have been wounded in a confusing incident following his liberation by a crowd of followers. Bishop was literally buried among the thousands of persons who had liberated him shortly before from house arrest in the Army General Headquarters. The prime minister had planned to address the people in a speech, but the crowd prevented him from reaching the downtown part of the capital. In the confusion shots were heard.

The reports indicate that Bishop decided to speak on the radio, but did not reach the government radio station Radio Free Grenada. According to the report, several trucks carrying troops fired on the people who were waiting to see the prime minister. It was said that union leader Vincent Noel was also wounded.

According to the broadcast, monitored by a radio station in Barbados, workers of the Grenadian electric industry decided to strike in support of Bishop. The press secretary of the ruling New Jewel Movement said that the troops who fired on the crowd are followers of former Deputy Minister Bernard Coard, who was arrested this morning by troops supporting Bishop.

Explosions Rock Army Headquarters

NC192005 Paris AFP in English 2000 GMT 19 Oct 83

[Text] St Georges, Grenada, Oct 19 (AFP) -- Two heavy explosions rocked the headquarters of Grenada's People's Revolutionary Army today, hours after Prime Minister Maurice Bishop had been freed from house arrest by a crowd of thousands of his supporters. Mr Bishop was reported to be in the army building at the time of the explosions, and there was no immediate news as to his whereabouts. The blasts were followed by gunfire.

A woman who escaped from the building with a bullet wound in her shoulder told an AFP correspondent that soldiers had opened fire while she was there. She said she had followed Mr Bishop to the Army headquarters a few minutes before the explosions, but did not know what had happened to him. Another woman said people had been killed in the incident. A crowd of some 10,000 people was waiting for Mr Bishop to give a speech in the market square in St Georges when the explosions were heard, but they started to disperse down side-streets as soon as they heard the shooting.

Fighting, Injuries Reported

FL192122 Bridgetown CANA in English 2044 GMT 19 Oct 83

[By Alister Hughes]

[Text] St Georges, Grenada, Oct 19, CANA -- There were reports of death and injury and the whereabouts of Grenada Prime Minister Maurice Bishop were uncertain this afternoon after gunfire was reported in the vicinity of Army headquarters, where he had taken refuge after being freed from house arrest by supporters.

Shorly after one o'clock local time, two heavy explosions followed by automatic machine gun fire were heard from Fort Rupert, the Army headquarters, causing the startled assembled crowd of supporters, estimated at around 9,000, to disperse and seek refuge in nearby roads.

Reports of people being killed could not be confirmed, but I saw one woman with a bullet wound in her left shoulder and two men with bloodstained clothes. The wounded woman told me that she had been at Fort Rupert and had been fired on by soldiers. She had no knowledge of the fate of Mr Bishop. Another young woman, who appeared to be nearly hysterical, spoke of people being killed and wounded. People, she said, had been taken to the nearby General Hospital.

By mid-afternoon there was black smoke coming from the Army headquarters. The cause is not known but conflicting reports said that either a car or the administration building was on fire.

At about 10:35 this morning, an estimated 3,000 people defied warning shots by soldiers guarding the residence of the prime minister and freed him and his education minister Jacqueline Creft. They had been held since Thursday as factions of the ruling New Jewel Movement determined who should lead the divided leftwing party. One faction supports Bishop and the other his hardline Marxist ex-deputy Bernard Coard, who was said to be effectively in charge of the island. Also reported freed were ex-Minister of Industrialisation Kendrick Radix, arrested Sunday for leading a pro-Bishop demonstration in St Georges, and trade union leader Fitzroy Bain.

It was a typical hot sunny day in St Georges and the delight of Bishop's supporters was clearly evident. There were shouts of "we get our leader back." Bishop was later to address them. But the automatic gunfire pushed the people on to strategic points where they could watch Fort Rupert for any news of the situation, which remains confuse:. Radio Free Grenada, previously the only official source for news, was inexplicably off the air.

Business houses were closed and school children were said to be among the demonstrators led by Unison Whiteman, the foreign minister who resigned with at least three others last night. The airport was closed and for a time telephone communication was cut.

Union Leader Killed in Violence

FL200005 Bridgetown CANA in English 2350 GMT 19 Oct 83

[Excerpts] St Georges, Grenada, Oct 19, CANA -- At least one person was killed and about 40 others injured in violence at the Army Headquarters here today, as soldiers opened fire on a large crowd that had just freed leftist Grenada Prime Minister Maurice bishop from house arrest, hospital and trade union sources said tonight.

The dead was identified by a civil service association spokesman as militant labour leader Vincent Noel, president of the Bank and General Workers Union. There were unconfirmed reports that a former cabinet minister was also among those killed in the melee.

Bishop, who is locked in a power struggle with his ex-deputy Bernard Coard for the leadership of the 10-year-old New Jewel Movement (NJM), had sought refuge in Fort Rupert and was preparing to address about 9,000 supporters in the capital, St Georges, when soldiers stormed the Army centre and detained him again, other sources said. Bishop's whereabouts tonight were unclear. It was the first open violence to erupt since a political crisis developed here last week dividing the NJM into two factions -- the moderates led by Bishop and the hardliners headed by Coard.

Between 40 and 50 people were awaiting treatment at St Georges' lone general hospital after the incident, a hospital source said. About six of them required emergency surgery, he said, and others with minor wounds were sent home.

The state-run Radio Free Grenada, for the past week the only source of official information on the crisis, was off the air for much of the day and stores in the capital were closed. The island was virtually without electricity and the air and sea ports were shut. There was limited telephone communication and for part of the day it was impossible to call into or out of Grenada.

In a telephone conversation with CANA from St Georges shortly after Bishop was freed, his press secretary, Don Rojas, quoted the prime minister as saying that Cuba was not in any way involved in the trouble here. He said it was "the work of militarists and anarchists led by Bernard Coard," and he called on the Army "not to turn their guns on the people." "The guns are to defend the interests of the people and not to be used against them," Rojas quoted Bishop as saying.

NJM co-founder Unison Whiteman, who resigned last night as foreign minister, had apparently led this morning's march by Bishop supporters to his official residence. Rojas said the crowd burst through the gates, went into the prime minister's house, and "physically lifted him and Education Minister Jacqueline Creft and brought them to the people." Two soldiers standing guard at the house fired warning shots to disperse the crowd, but to no avail, Rojas said. A tired and weak looking Bishop was then taken into the city market square with the jubilant supporters chanting "we got our leader back."

Prime Minister Bishop's Press Secretary Don Rojas reported gunfire, as truckloads of soldiers arrived outside Fort Rupert. Shortly before 1 pm local time two loud explosions shook the area and were followed by bursts of automatic gunfire. Rojas said the crowd scampered for safety in adjacent side roads, and billowing black smoke was seen over the army barracks.

Former Minister of Industrialisation Kendrick Radix, who resigned during the crisis and was detained by the security forces along with trade unionist Fitzroy Bain were freed by the demonstrators, but were held again when the Army moved in, well-informed sources here said. Minister Creft was also said to be back in detention. Coard's whereabouts were unclear. In the meantime, the Marxist Workers Party of Jamaica tonight issued a statement alleging that American warships were on their way to the area. It is estimated that there are under 2,000 U.S. citizens in Grenada, including those at the offshore American medical school here.

Bishop, Ministers Dead

FL200225 Bridgetown CANA in English 0222 GMT 20 Oct 83

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, Oct 19, CANA -- Radio Free Grenada, monitored in Barbados, announced tonight that Maurice Bishop, deposed as prime minister of Grenada, is dead.

Radio Free Grenada also announced that five other people were killed today: former Minister of Foreign Affairs Unison Whiteman; former Education Minister Jacqueline Creft; former Minister of Housing Norris Bain; President of the Bank and General Workers Union Vincent Noel; and President of the Agricultural and General Workers Union Fitzroy Bain.

An all-day-and-night curfew during the next four days was also announced. Anybody seen on streets during this period will be shot on sight, the radio said.

Austin Announces Bishop's Death

PA200244 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0235 GMT 20 Oct 83

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, 19 Oct (EFE) -- Grenadian Prime Minister Maurice Bishop died today, according to General Hudson Austin, commander of that country's Armed Forces. He made the statement for the official Radio Free Grenada.

Died in Shootout

PY200355 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0345 GMT 20 Oct 83

[Text] Bridgetown, 19 Oct (EFE) -- Radio Free Grenada has reported that three ministers of Prime Minister Maurice Bishop's administration today died together with the latter in the shootout between the police and Bishop's supporters. According to other nonconfirmed reports, troops loyal to Deputy Prime Minister Bernard Coard shot into the crowd that was trying to free Bishop, killing four of them and wounding 47 others.

Military Government Proclamation

FL200350 St Georges Domestic Service in English 0328 GMT 20 Oct 83

[Text] The following is a proclamation from the People's Revolutionary Armed Forces:

This afternoon at 3 pm a 16-man Revolutionary Military Council was constituted to form a new government of Grenada. The chairman of the council is Comrade Hudson Austin, general of the People's Revolutionary Armed Forces. Its other members are officers of sections of the People's Revolutionary Armed Forces.

The Revolutionary Military Council has full legislative and executive powers. It has dissolved the PRG [People's Revolutionary Government] and dismissed all members of the present cabinet and now legally constitutes the Government of Grenada.

The lives and property of all foreign citizens are fully protected and guaranteed. The Revolutionary Military Council hereby declares that any attempt of foreign aggression will be resisted by the People's Revolutionary Armed Forces to the last man, and calls upon all countries to respect the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Grenada, and to strictly adhere to the international legal principles of noninterference with the internal affairs of (?RMC).

This is an announcement from the Revolutionary Military Council:

The Revolutionary Military Council hereby reminds the public of the all-day, all-night curfew which began at 9:00 p.m. today, Wednesday, October 19th, and which will last until 6:00 p.m. on Monday, October 24th.

During this 3-and-a-half-day period, all citizens are asked to remain at home. All schools and workplaces will be closed. Essential service workers will receive special passes and transport to go to and from work.

The Revolutionary Military Council repeats its warning that anyone who violates this curfew will be shot on sight.

That was an announcement from the Revolutionary Military Council.

Austin Charges Bishop's Group

FL200430 Bridgetown CANA in English 0425 GMT 20 Oct 83

[Excerpt] Bridgetown, Barbados, Oct 19, CANA -- Tonight's [Radio Free Grenada] announcement made no mention of Coard, the hardline Marxist ideologue, who Whiteman had said last night was running the country from his house.

Austin said the Army had been "instructed not to fire on the people" at any stage. But after Bishop was freed by the marchers, the crowd led by the prime minister seized the Army Headquarters, "disarmed the officers of the General Staff as well as the rank and file soldiers...and began to arm themselves."

With Bishop having declared his intention to arrest and wipe out the entire NJM Central Committee, senior members of the party and the Armed Forces leadership, the Army despatched a crack unit to "re-establish control of Fort Rupert," Austin said. Bishop and his group fired on the soldiers killing two of them, Austin said, and wounded several others. The Armed Forces were then forced to storm the fort and in the process several people were killed, Austin announced.

Barbados' state-run radio said tonight there had been independent reports from Grenada that Bishop was executed after the actual melee today and that Creft had been beaten.

The Barbados prime minister, Tom Adams, said he was "absolutely horrified" by the killings. Linking the events to relations within the 13-nation Caribbean Community of which Barbados and Grenada are both members, Adams said he did not see himself sitting down at regional meetings with "these disgusting murderers."

GAIRY SAYS HE WILL RETURN IN NEAR FUTURE

FL191420 Belize City THE BELIZE SUNDAY TIMES in English 16 Oct 83 p 6

[Text] Sir Eric Gairy, the deposed Prime Minister of Grenada who was ousted in CARICOM's first coup in March 1979, turned up in Barbados last month after having lain low in the United States for the last four years. He immediately announced his intention to return as head of Grenada's Government some time in the future.

He did not elaborate on how that would be done, but discounted suggestions that he planned to sponsor a mercenary invasion of Grenada.

"I would not want a government overthrown by mercenaries," Sir Eric declared. Still looking his well-groomed self, he said: "If I wanted mercenaries to overthrow the Grenada Government, that would be done if I had the money. In fact, I don't want it that way." However, he claimed, the people of Grenada expected him to return some day to resume his political inheritance. "I am in temporary exile but it is incumbent on me because the people have given me a mandate which has not been dissipated by what happened."

Sir Eric, who apparently now lives in California, flew to Barbados from New York. It was not clear either on what type of passport he was travelling or on the position of the Barbados Government on permitting him to land and hold meetings and a press conference. The Grenada Government, hearing about Mr Gairy's presence in Barbados, said it would make an effort to "extradite" him, but no action appears to have been taken by the time the colourful believer in the world of metaphysics and flying saucers left Barbados, as silently as he had entered it.

JAMAICA

MANLEY TERMS BISHOP KILLING 'BETRAYAL OF PEOPLE'

FL200626 Bridgetown CANA in English 0612 GMT 20 Oct 83

[Excerpts] Bridgetown, Barbados, Oct 20, CANA -- Jamaica's opposition leader, Michael Manley, today termed the slaying of Grenada's Prime Minister Maurice Bishop by the island's military as a "squalid betrayal of the hopes of the ordinary people of our region."

The former Jamaican prime minister said: "The brutal killing of Maurice Bishop and many of his cabinet and trade union colleagues by the Grenadian Army represents a squalid betrayal of the hopes of the ordinary people of our region. The thousands who demonstrated for Bishop during the day were expressing their faith in the leader who has given them a new sense of hope and pride as a people. History would pass a terrible judgement on those who are responsible for his murder."

The executive of the People's National Party [PNP] would meet in emergency session tomorrow to consider more fully the implications of what has happened, the socialist former prime minister said.

WPJ ALLEGES U.S. TO INTERVENE IN GRENADA

FL200008 Bridgetown CANA in English 2334 GMT 19 Oct 83

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, Oct 19, CANA -- The Marxist Workers Party of Jamaica (WPJ) tonight claimed that U.S. warships were on their way to intervene in the political crisis there, and called on Caribbean peoples and governments to condemn the "imminent invasion."

It also called on the Grenadian people and the leadership of the New Jewel Movement (NJM), now locked in a leadership struggle that is apparently putting the 133-square mile east Caribbean island on the brink of a civil war, to quickly settle their internal differences.

The WPJ said that it was ready to assist if requested. WPJ cadres have and do work in the varying capacities since the 1979 overthrow the eccentric dictator, Sir Eric Gairy, by the NJM that brought Prime Minister Maurice Bishop to power.

"They will do what Khrushchev did about Bulganin, a campaign aimed at undermining the Bishop popularity, after which they will push him aside, and Coard will emerge," Compton said.

He said that Grenada's problem will continue as long as they maintain that kind of regime. "The Grenada regime is an aberration. It is quite alien to the Caribbean in character and until it is resolved by the return to democratic rule, the situation will continue to breed discord," the prime minister added.

Under Coard, Compton said, any chance of elections in Grenada must be remote, as his foreign and domestic policy will have a hardline communist base. "Whatever little chance Grenada had in Bishop for the liberalisation of the regime is gone for sometime to come." He said: "Coard's regime will try to push the Caribbean Community into the communist camp." However, he remarked that several governments in the region, including St Lucia, will resist any such efforts.

Compton said he had no evidence of direct Cuban or Soviet Union intervention in the current crisis. But he added that he was not surprised at the development, as Bishop, of late, had been in search of some accomodation from the United States in an effort to get the state economy moving again. "Despite all the propaganda, we have figures to show that Grenada's economy is under severe stress. I believe Bishop was starting to attend to the economy by looking at other sources of revenue.

"Grenada being in the Western Hemisphere and having to depend so heavily on CARICOM, and with Bishop's new drive into tourism, he had to liberalise his government's whole attitude to the United States," Compton said. Compton said that it was this search for an accommodation that did suit the hardliners, who have disposed of Bishop.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

UNIONS URGE GRENADA'S NJM TO RESOLVE CRISIS

FL191650 Bridgetown CANA in English 1629 GMT 19 Oct 83

[Text] Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, Oct 19 (CANA) -- The Council for Progressive Trade Unions (CPTU), an umbrella grouping for radical labour unions in Trinidad and Tobago, has called on the ruling New Jewel Movement in Grenada to peacefully resolve the political crisis there.

In a cable signed by General Secretary Cecil Paul, the CPTU, which includes the Oilfield Workers Trade Union, said: "Progressive Trade Union Movement in Trinidad and Tobago deeply concerned about situation in Grenada. CPTU urges urgent and peaceful resolution of the problem by the Grenadian people in the interest of the revolutionary process of Caribbean people's."

In another cable to the NJM, the Central Committee of the National Farmers and Workers Union said it was deeply concerned about the safety of Grenada Prime Minister Maurice Bishop, under house arrest, and former Inudstry Minister Kenrick Radix, who has been arrested.

Labor Leader Expresses Concern

FL172204 Bridgetown Cana in English 2109 GMT 17 Oct 83

[Text] Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, Oct 17, CANA -- Head of Trinidad and Tobago's most powerful trade union, George Weekes, who has close ties with leftwing Grenadian Prime Minister Maurice Bishop, today expressed deep concern about the political crisis there, and in a telegram to the government urged that the conflict among the party leadership be overcome "in the interest of peaceful and deeper development of the revolution."

Weekes, president-general of the Oilfields Workers Trade Union (OWTU), said he was assured, however, during a telephone conversation last night with Grenada's mobilisation minister, Selwyn Strachan, that Bishop, whom reports said was under house arrest following a takeover by the Army, was safe.

"He assured me that Comrade Bishop was safe and I asked him to convey our best regards to Comrade Bishop and all other persons detained," Weekes said.

The OWTU, whose socialist boss has had 13 years of close relations with the Grenada leader, said it was today discussing the possibility of sending a team to St Georges to see how the union could assist in resolving the problem there.

Weekes called for a peaceful democratic settlement of the conflict--Bishop is said to be resisting moves by the ruling New Jewel Movement to have him share the party leadership with former Deputy Prime Minister Bernard Coard - with the people acting as the judges. He suggested that Bishop, who has not been seen in public since Wednesday, be allowed to put across his side of the story to the masses "so that the people can pass judgement and intervene to have a peaceful resolution of the matter."

"I think it is fair and just that some opportunity be given to Comrade Bishop so he could meet the people and braodcast to them his side," Weekes said.

The full text of the telegram read:

"Executive Committee of OWTU deeply concerned over current developments within the People's Revolutionary Government of Grenada.

"Vitally necessary to save revolution in interest of Grenadian people in particular and Caribbean in general. To this end imperative internal conflict among leadership be overcome in interest of peaceful and deeper development of revolution.

"Suggest that issues be taken to rank and file of party and more especially masses of the people for democratic settlement.

"Vital to demonstrate that new People's Democracy of Grenada is capable of addressing and triumphing over passing difficulties.

"Grenadian community in OWTU concerned over safety of Comrade Bishop. Imperative that safety of all lives be ensured.

"We stand at your disposal to assist." (end of telegram).

It is an apparent attempt by a faction of the party to push the four-year-old revolution further to the left that ignited the battle in St. Georges.

The WPJ did not disclose the source of its information, but said that it had been reliably informed that the U.S. ships were going to Grenada ostensibly to protect American citizens. It did not say how many ships or from where they were sailing.

Jamaica Foreign Ministry officials said that the events in St Georges were being watched in so far as possible, but that the government here had no comment on the matter at this time.

ST LUCIA

COMPTON ANALYZES CURRENT CRISIS IN GRENADA

FL182322 Bridgetown CANA in English 2223 GMT 18 Oct 83

[By Ernie Seon]

[Text] Castries, St Lucia, Oct 18, CANA -- St Lucia Prime Minister John Compton says the outcome of the current political crisis in neighbouring Grenada could well hamper the harmonisation of foreign policy within the 13-nation Caribbean Community (CARICOM).

In the first public reaction from a CARICOM head since the crisis within Grenada's ruling New Jewel Movement was made public last Friday, Compton said: "With the communist hardliner Bernard Coard now in line to head the government, things will get rough in the area of harmonising a CARICOM foreign policy, this will become virtually impossible." Compton said for the seven-nation-sub-regional grouping, the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS), the situation was likely to be worse. "Being a smaller unit, our problems are going to be much more evident," he said.

Grenada's moderate socialist prime minister, Maurice Bishop is under house arrest as the ruling New Jewel Movement's Central Committee awaits the outcome of investigations by the security forces into allegations that Bishop accused Coard and his wife, Phillis, of planning to kill him. The NJM says Bishop has also rejected its decision to introduce joint leadership in the party with Coard sharing power with Bishop.

Compton said the solution to Grenada's problem was very predictable. "It is the classic communist solution." He said that from the early days of Russian revolution. there was Lenin and Trotsky.... "After Lenin's death, there was trouble between Stalin and Trotsky which ended with the elimination of Trotsky." He continued: "After Stalin's death, they had what they called collective leadership, with Bulganin and Khrushchev, the famous "B" and "K", the struggle continued, then you heard nothing more of Bulganin but only of Krushchev."

Compton said that after Krushchev's death, the Brezhnev and Kosygin duo took over, but soon after, nothing more was heard of Kosygin only of Brezhnev." Compton said the position in Grenada was similar, with Bishop in a power struggle with Coard. "Within the next few months it will continue until you hear nothing more of Bishop, only of Coard. In the past, they used to shoot them, but they don't shoot horses anymore, so the ones that have survived their usefulness are pushed into the pasture," he said.

The St Lucia leader predicted that soon there will be a "terrific" propaganda campaign against Bishop.